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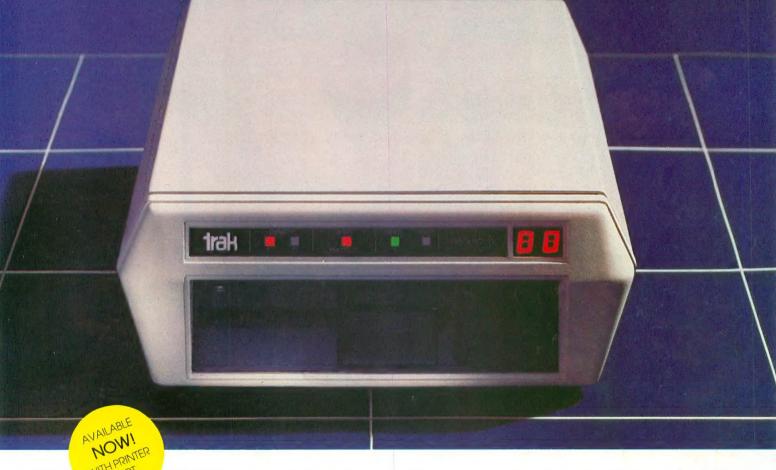
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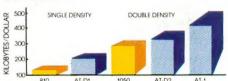
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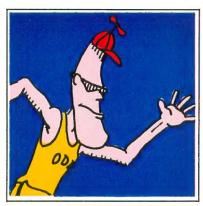
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+ SONUS GAMEX X



page 44



page 19



page 23

NEW PRODUCTS \_ PRODUCT REVIEWS \_

| A GREETING CARD FOR ALL SEASONS by William L. Henson | 1 26 |
|--|------|
| Say it on cassette                                   |      |
| FOLLOW THAT STOCK by Eric Verheiden                  | 31   |
| A spreadsheet for your stock portfolio               |      |
| MONEY MATTERS by Warwick Wakeman                     | 37   |
| Atari reckons with personal finance                  | 1    |
| TYPO by Bill Wilkinson                               | 42   |
| Type your program once                               |      |
| ATARI AT WAR by Karl Wiegers                         | 44   |
| The wild world of conflict simulation                | 4    |
| FAST FINGERS by Craig Chamberlain                    | 48   |
| Autoboot with a ghost at the keyboard                |      |
| PHONE BOOK by Jerry White                            | 54   |
| Simulate string arrays in Atari BASIC                | 75.0 |
| CHARACTER GRAPHICS by Chris Chabris                  | 60   |
| Redefine the set any way you choose                  |      |

| DEPARTMENTS   |            |
|---|------------|
| INSIDE ATARI  |            |
| IT'S OFFICIAL by David F. Barry   | 1:         |
| STARTING LINE   |            |
| A CINDERELLA STORY by Fred Pinho  | 1.         |
| EDUCATION   |            |
| THE END OF ODD MAN by John and Mary Harrison  | 19         |
| LOGO/PILOT  | -          |
| LOGO BOOKS by Ken Harms   | 23         |
| IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN  |            |
| THE GANTLET by Stephen Groll  | 70         |
|   |            |
| * * BONUS GAME * * GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait  |            |
|   |            |
| **BONUS GAME** GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait  | tchison 78 |
| * * BONUS GAME * * GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait TAPE TOPICS  | tchison 78 |
| ** BONUS GAME ** GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait TAPE TOPICS THE 410 HI-REL MOD by Carl Evans   | tchison 78 |
| ** BONUS GAME * * GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait TAPE TOPICS  THE 410 HI-REL MOD by Carl Evans  SYSTEMS GUIDE  | tchison 78 |
| ** BONUS GAME ** GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait  TAPE TOPICS  THE 410 HI-REL MOD by Carl Evans  SYSTEMS GUIDE  NIGHTMARE DETOUR by David and Sandy Small                         | tchison 78 |
| ** ** BONUS GAME ** * GALACTIC GLOOP by Guy Ait  TAPE TOPICS  THE 410 HI-REL MOD by Carl Evans  SYSTEMS GUIDE  NIGHTMARE DETOUR by David and Sandy Small  ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE | 83<br>89   |

94

96

MICROSCREENS \_\_\_\_



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#### I/O BOARD

#### INTERFACE ALTERNATIVES

I have an Atari 800, and have recently purchased an Epson RX-80 printer. Can you suggest alternatives to the 850 (Atari) and the MPP-1100 (Microbits Peripherals) interfaces. I want to take into consideration future additions to the system. Also, which disk drives are the best choices for the Atari?

R. P. Stein Audubon, PA

Axiom makes a \$99 printer interface. We haven't evaluated it yet, but expect to shortly. Also, several disk drives have built-in printer interfaces. Two of these are the Percom (special model) and the Trak. We haven't yet evaluated the performance of these drives, but are planning to publish a disk drive survey in the near future. See "Mission Redux: Disk Drive Daze" (ANTIC, December 1983) for a survey of disk drives from the point of view of the professional programmer.

—ANTIC ED

#### COMPUTERIZED GRADING

In the October 1983 issue of ANTIC, the authors of "Flip Side" hint at the existence of programs that keep track of grades for a semester. Where can I find these programs?

Don Sward Northfield, MN

We're aware of two commercial products that perform classroom record-keeping chores: Easy Grader Rev. 1.1 (APX) and Teacher's Gradebook (Dynacomp, Inc.). —ANTIC ED

#### THE BEST YET!

Congratulations on your December issue! It's your best ever. I've been reading ANTIC since you started, and it's been great fun to watch you grow.

Jerry Dea Secretary Atari Anonymous— A Users Group Upland, CA

#### TYPO HELPER

ANTIC's debugging program, "TYPO," is an excellent tool, but it's a little slow. Most people have to run it several times to find all of their typos and, because it checks the entire program each time, a lot of time is wasted checking portions of the code that you already know are correct. But by changing line 32110 and adding line 32175 (see below), you can force TYPO to start checking at a line number that you specify.

This line number should match a beginning line number of one of the ranges in the Typo Table for the listing involved. Please note that these new lines add a variable to TYPO; as a result, the variable checksum provided by this modified version of TYPO will not match the one printed in the magazine. Therefore, you should use the original version of TYPO until the two variable checksums are identical. Then you can use ENTER to merge these modified lines into the program:

32110 INPUT Q\$:? "Starting Line Number";:INPUT STLINE: OPEN #QF,12,0,Q\$: QREM = 0

32175 IF QLINE<STLINE THEN
QADDR = QADDR + PEEK
(QADDR + 2):G.32170

Ron Bishop Owasso, OK

Thanks for the useful tip. By the way, a revised version of Bill Wilkinson's article on TYPO ("TYPO Revisited, Again") appears in this issue for the benefit of our many new readers. It explains how to use TYPO to check other program listings published in ANTIC and to check itself.

-ANTIC ED

#### FOND OF OUR FONT

I'd like to compliment you on your monospaced program listings. Together

continued on page 8



**ATARI 5200** 



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#### I/O BOARD

with your customized font and "TYPO," they make ANTIC by far the easiest magazine to copy programs from. Thanks for a great magazine.

Brian Weiss Pierre, SD

#### **ROCKING ROMS**

I've always been convinced that ROM cartridges are more rugged than cassette or disk media, but I was recently surprised to find that my Missile Command and Star Raiders cartridges wouldn't work. Missile Command put white squares on the screen, and Star Raiders generated only the familiar blue Memo-Pad. And, of course, the 90-day warranties for the games had long since expired.

Since I'm an electronics technician, I decided to do some experimenting. I started with Star Raiders, and tried pressing [RESET] and re-inserting the cartridge several times. No luck. Then I realized that if the Memo-Pad was coming up, the computer must think there was *not* a cartridge in the left slot. Since Star Raiders was plugged into the slot, I realized that something was not making proper contact.

I removed the cartridge's metal lid and looked inside. Everything looked okay, so I pried each of the two ROM chips a little and then carefully pushed them back into their sockets. Then I reassembled the cartridge and headed back to my 800.

I plugged the cartridge back in, and was greeted by the slow drone of the engines at Warp Three, and a front view of the galaxy with no Klingons in sight. Success! Moments later, the same fix worked for Missile Command. It appears that "wiggling" the ROM chips up and down a bit can save a "bad" cartridge from the trash bin. So before giving up on your malfunctioning cartridges, try rocking your ROMs.

David Mundy St. Ann, MO

#### **AEROBIC COMPUTING**

I've been using the Suncom Aerobic Joystick with my Atari 800, and it does a great deal to relieve the tedium of my half-hour exercise routine every morning. Galaxian has provided me with a lot of entertainment during these sessions, but I'd like to try some other games for variety's sake. Can you suggest any games that take advantage of this joystick's special capabilities? The most important thing to remember is that the faster you pedal, the faster the fire button shoots. Also, you can't aim very precisely when you're pedalling away at 20 miles per hour.

Helen Phillips Arvada, CO

The Aerobic Joystick should work best with games that require rapid and continual pressing of the fire button. This type of game is also ideal for testing joysticks and modules that add a "rapid-fire" capability to your system. Zaxxon (DataSoft) and Defender (Atari) both fit the bill nicely and are terrific games as well. —ANTIC ED

#### IN THE DATA FILE DUMPS

I'm trying to learn data file programming using Atari Microsoft BASIC. In an earlier letter, I asked if there was a way to produce a program that allows you to use a user-defined variable for the file name in the OPEN #iocb,"D:filename" file-access command. The book I was using at the time described how to do this in Microsoft-80, but the OPEN command is entirely different. You advised me to use a string variable in place of the file specification in the OPEN command. Unfortunately, I don't know what you mean by the term "file specification." Would it be possible for you to give me a specific example of the correct format? I'd also like to be able to specify what type of file to open.

> Jerry Steinberg Brooklyn, NY

If you want the user to input only the file name, you must insert the device specification (i.e., D:) in front of the filename. This is done via string manipulation.

The best solution we've found is to include a routine that checks for the device specification. If it is not present, the routine adds it.

Once you've derived the proper file specification (including device specification and filename), use the string variable, without quotes, as follows:

#### 20 OPEN #1,N\$OUTPUT

For further information on string manipulation, see Chapter 10 of your Microsoft BASIC manual.

-ANTIC ED

#### KOALA IS COMPATIBLE

I recently purchased the Koalapad for my Atari, and I'm very impressed by it. However, I'm dismayed by the fact that its picture-storing method is incompatible with other graphics programs, such as DataSoft's Micro-Painter. Do you know of a remedy?

Alek Grguric Don Mills, Ont., Canada

You're in luck! You can store pictures that were created with Koalapad's Micro Illustrator program in a standardized format which is compatible with any program that can load a Graphics 8 or Mode E (Micro-Painter) screen. When you want to save your picture, go to Micro Illustrator's icon menu and position the cursor over the disk symbol. Then press [INSERT] on your computer's keyboard. This will save your current picture to disk in standard format as a file named PICTURE.

This remedy was submitted by Robert H. Watson of Brooklyn, NY. He also noted that you can load any file named PICTURE by moving the cursor to the disk symbol and pressing [CLEAR],

continued on page 10

### **EPYX GAMES**



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#### I/O BOARD

but this didn't work when we tried it. If you load a picture created with Micro Illustrator into Micro-Painter, you'll get an error message and the picture's colors will not look right, because the four appended color bytes that Micro-Painter expects are not present. However, the entire picture can be loaded, and its colors can be adjusted. —ANTIC ED

#### MINDING THE MODEM

I recently purchased a 1200-baud Hayes Smart Modem. What do I need to connect it to my Atari 800 and run it? Please bear in mind that I'm a babe in the woods.

Milton Yuan Rutherford, NJ

You'll need an Atari 850 interface to con-

nect your Smart Modem to your Atari; TELETALK, by DataSoft, is one of several programs that will allow you to control the modem. For more information on the subject, see "Atari Terminal" (ANTIC, May 1983, page 32) and watch for our May issue this year, which will focus on the latest developments in the field of communications.

-ANTIC ED



#### HELP!

#### **GTIA-SKETCHPAD BUGS**

I've found a couple of minor bugs in "GTIA Sketchpad" (ANTIC, December 1983). If you move the cursor to the top of the screen in the "Doodle" mode while you're pressing the joystick's fire button (to create a wide line), you get an error message. To remedy this, change line 800 as follows:

#### 800 IF YP<N1 THEN YP = 148

If you move the cursor to the far left of the screen while pressing the fire button, it doesn't wrap around. To fix this, make the following changes to line 790:

#### 790 IF XP<N1 THEN XP = 78

These changes should make debugging easier.

Will Cronenwett Norman, OK

#### TAKE IT FROM THE TOP

There is a minor flaw in "Air Raid 2000" (ANTIC, November 1983) by Erik Wolpaw. The title of the game flashes on the screen constantly. This is distracting and hard on the eyes. To remedy this,

simply change the inverse-video title of the game in lines 1120 and 1370 to normal video.

All in all, however, I'd like to congratulate Erik on a job well done — keep it up!

Bill Mason Redding, CA

#### WRONG ADDRESS

In the "ANTIC Pix Controllers" survey (December 1983), we gave an incorrect address for Questar Controls, Inc., the manufacturer of the Questar Control Console and the Blaster. Their correct address is: 799 Main St., Half Moon Bay, CA 94019.

#### A LOT OF ROT

The listing for my new "DOS Sectors to Forth" article (ANTIC, page 32, October 1983) contains a misprint at the end of the fourth line. The word "tROT" should be "<ROT." This command causes a left rotation of the stack — in other words, it moves the top of the stack to the third position from the top. This word can be implemented as "LROT" in

some versions, and is defined as:

: <ROT ( N1 N2 N3 - N3 N1 N2 ) ROT ROT ;

> BIll Van Hassel New Hope, PA

#### **EPSON RX-80 PRICE**

We provided incorrect price information on the Epson RX-80 printer in our recent "Printer Survey" (ANTIC, January 1983). The correct prices are \$399 for the standard model and \$599 for the RX-80 with the friction feature. The \$299 price was an authorized introductory sale price.

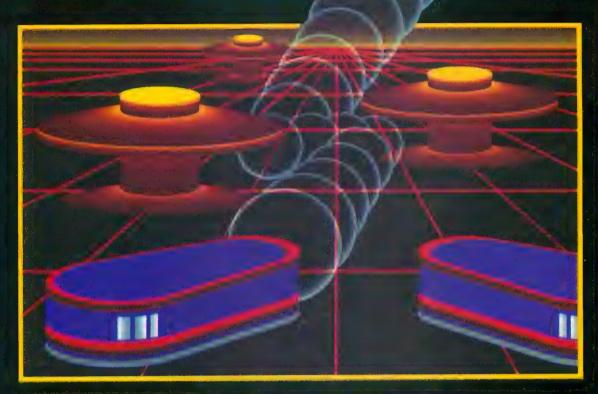
#### TAG

In the game "Tag" (ANTIC, November 1983, p. 84), the screen is supposed to clear after every minute of play. However, due to an oversight, it does not. To effect this feature, change line 95 to:

95 POKE 540,60:S = S + 1:IF S = 60 THEN M = M + 1:?#6;CHR\$(125): S = 0



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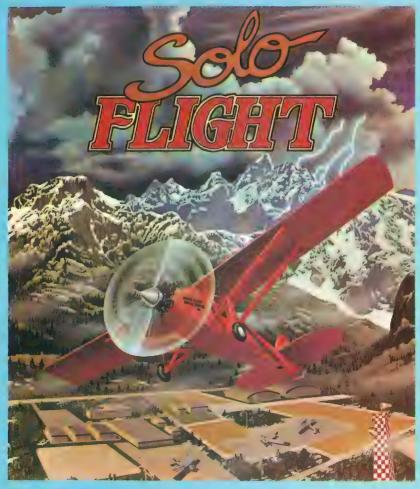
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# IT'S OFFICIAL!

# Atari joins the U.S. Olympic Team

by DAVID F. BARRY

The 1984 Summer Olympics have not yet opened in Los Angeles, but Atari is already having a major impact on the Olympic effort. As befits a company of Atari's stature, it is sponsoring the U.S. Women's Volleyball Team, which is considered to be one of the top contenders for the gold medal in this Olympic sport. This sponsorship is only one of several agreements Atari has entered into with the Los Angeles Olympic Organizing Committee (L.A.O.O.C.) for the 1984 Summer Games.

Atari has also contracted with the L.A.O.O.C. to be the Summer Games' sole sponsor of home computers, arcade games and home video games. This contract gives Atari the right to use the Olympic symbol, language, and logo on any of its promotional materials.

In addition, Atari has contracted with ABC Sports to air 25 commercials during the Winter Olympics in in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia (February 8–19), and 60 commercials during the Summer Olympics in Los Angeles (July 28 to August 12). Consequently, it should be difficult to watch the 1984 Olympics on television without being aware that Atari is on the scene!

Atari is also donating approximately \$75,000 worth of equipment to be used in conjunction with the Summer Games.

David F. Barry is a technical writer in the computer field, and the author of an upcoming book on the word-processing program Wordstar.



Thus far, Atari has arranged to provide computer games for use by athletes in the Olympic Village, and to set up arcade games at the ABC International Broadcast center for use by some 2,000 media representatives from around the world.

To further dramatize its commitment to the U.S. Women's Volleyball team,

Atari is sponsoring the team's current cross-country tour, which pits the women against some of America's topranked, men's collegiate varsity teams. In support of this commitment on the part of Atari, team members will be wearing Atari patches on their uniforms.

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#### **INSIDE ATARI**

The tremendous strides that the Women's Volleyball Team has made in recent years are due in large part to its computerized training camp. At the Coto Research Center in Coto de Caza. California (70 miles south of Los Angeles), computers are providing coaches and trainers with such detailed images of their athletes' performance that the word "guesswork" is quickly disappearing from the Olympic vocabulary. Five years ago, the Women's Volleyball Team was unranked in world competition. Today, it is an internationally recognized contender for the Olympic gold medal.

The computerized facilities in Coto de Caza operate under the guidance of Dr. Gideon Ariel, a pioneer and renowned leader in the field of biomechanics, the computerized study of human movement.

Dr. Ariel uses high-speed cameras to film the movements of athletes. The frames of film are then projected onto a special screen, traced with a magnetic pen, fed into a computer for analysis, and then output as "three-dimensional" stick figures. The result is a highlyprecise, graphic image of the physical movement involved. From these images, Dr. Ariel can determine such elusive variables as the optimal angle at which to spike a volleyball, or the most efficient way to make a lateral move on the volleyball court. He does this by comparing the graphic image of the actual motion with a hypothetical "optimum" motion developed in the laboratory. His aim, which fits in well with the ideals of the Olympics themselves, is to bring the actual closer to the optimum.

Dr. Ariel has also used biomedical analysis to study opposing volleyball teams. In the process, he has dissected their movements, studied their strengths and weaknesses, and provided fresh new insights about their styles of play to the rapidly improving U.S. Women's Team.

Stay tuned for more news about Atari's involvement in the 1984 Olympics in a future issue of ANTIC. In the meantime, you may begin to find yourself looking at your Atari in a different light. After all, it's now the Official Home Computer of the 1984 Olympics.

# A CINDERELLA STORY

The half-life of a computer drudge

by FRED PINHO

Most computer owners know that a computer needs a "language," such as BASIC, to function. These languages are the "belles of the ball." But, as in the fairy tale, there is also an unsung drudge in the computer that these languages need to be able to do their thing. This hardworking servant goes by various names: Master Control Program, Operating System, System Monitor, etc. Atari chose to call their version simply, the Operating System (OS).

#### WHAT IS THE OS?

The OS is a gut-level program that manages the resources of the computer and controls communications with the computer's peripherals. A peripheral is a hardware device such as a keyboard, television, joystick, cassette drive, disk drive, or printer.

At the heart of a personal computer is the microprocessor, often referred to as the Central Processing Unit (CPU). In the Atari computers, the 6502 chip is the CPU. While a BASIC program is interacting with this chip, there are many housekeeping activities that must be monitored and controlled. These tasks range from controlling the TV display

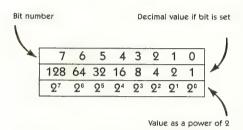
Fred Pinho is a biochemical research engineer and a self-taught programmer who is interested in BASIC and assembly language. The Atari 800 is his first computer.



to establishing communications with a cassette recorder. If the programmer had to keep track of all of these activities as well as his or her program, programming would be very tedious. Thus, operating systems evolved to take some of this burden away from the programmer.

Any operating system is a group of machine-language programs. Machine language is the microprocessor's mother (and only) tongue. The Atari's 6502 chip is an 8-bit microprocessor. This means that it handles and processes eight bits continued on next page

of information (one byte) at a time. These eight pieces of information are expressed in binary notation. That is, the processor is only concerned about whether a bit is on (set) or off. There are no intermediate values to consider. Setting these bits in various combinations causes various circuits within the chip to be opened or closed. For our purposes, a byte expresses numbers in binary notation as follows:



Note that each bit doubles in value as we go from right to left. We are, in effect, counting in powers of two. If a bit is not set, the value of that bit is zero. Thus, to determine the value of a byte, add up the values of all the bits that are set. Remember, position counts.

With this system, the highest number that can be represented in eight bits is 255, if all bits are set. But note that 256 numbers can be expressed. All bits off equals zero, and to the computer, zero is as important a number as any other. This may sound trivial, but as you get into more advanced programming, keeping this fact in mind can save you a lot of debugging time.

#### WHAT CAN IT DO?

Contrary to popular lore, the CPU doesn't really "know" numbers (binary or otherwise). All it knows is that voltages on certain lines cause predetermined changes to take place in other circuits. Chip designers have taken care to see that the results of these circuit changes can be interpreted in various ways. Once a value is in the accumulator, many other operations are possible. For example, if you send the value 169 to the 6502 chip, followed by the value 10, the chip will "load" 10 into a part of itself called the "accumulator."

The chip's repertoire is extremely limited. Basically, it can add, subtract,

compare two numbers, perform simple versions of IF/THEN and GOSUB commands, and move data around in memory. These talents certainly won't qualify the 6502 for a stage career. Yet, from its humble (but *very* fast) skills, all the wonderful graphics and computational capabilities of today's software have evolved.

Physically the Atari OS is contained in several integrated circuit (IC) chips that are separate from the CPU. In the Atari 800, the OS is easily removable. It resides on the first large cartridge (sometimes called a board) in the memory bay under the removable top. Ranked behind it are the RAM cartridges. The OS is stored in fixed position in memory (locations 55296–65535); this position is located at the very top of the available memory space.

#### SPECIALTY CHIPS

What are the resources that the OS must manage? In addition to the microprocessor chip and RAM memory, there are four specialized chips that aid the 6502 in performing its job. These are ANTIC (that name sounds familiar!), GTIA, POKEY and PIA. The workings of these components must be integrated with those of the 6502, a job at which the OS excels. A short description of each of the specialty chips is given below:

# GTIA (memory locations 53248–53505)

This Television Interface Chip was designed to process the video signal. Early versions of the Atari had a CTIA. The difference between the two chips is that GTIA supports Graphics Modes 9–11, while CTIA does not. Basically, GTIA converts digital commands from ANTIC into a video signal that is sent to the television.

The data from ANTIC contains information for the Graphics Mode desired. While processing this data, GTIA adds its own information, which includes color values and Player/Missile graphics. GTIA also provides collision detection. (Collision for the Player/Missile system is defined as two objects overlapping on the screen.) Finally, this busy little chip

monitors the console keys.

# ANTIC (locations 54272–54783)

This chip is actually a specialized microprocessor in its own right. It controls the screen display through instructions to C/GTIA. ANTIC has its own miniprogram called the *display list*. Upon a graphics call from BASIC, the Operating System sets up the display list at a specific spot in RAM. The display list then tells ANTIC exactly how to set up the TV screen and where to find the data to be displayed. ANTIC retrieves the display data and instructions from the display list and translates them into instructions for C/GTIA.

# POKEY (locations 53760-54015)

POKEY is the digital I/O (Input/Output) chip. It has a multitude of functions. The chip has four independent sound channels. Each channel has a frequency register and a control register that regulate sound volume and distortion. You access these through the SOUND command from BASIC. You can also POKE directly into these registers if you wish. POKEY reads values from the joysticks and paddle controllers. It also scans the keyboard for input, operates random numbers and handles serial I/O (i.e., communication with peripherals, such as a cassette recorder). "Serial" simply means that data is sent one bit at a time. "Parallel" means that more than one bit is sent at a time - usually eight bits in the Atari.

## PIA (locations 54016–54271)

The Peripheral Interface Adapter is a specialized microprocessor chip used to control the four controller jacks (the plugs used to connect joysticks and paddles).

It is now time to explore the subterranean caverns of the Operating System itself. Let's take our flashlights and maps and explore each of the main elements of the OS.

continued on page 18



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A CINDERELLA STORY continued from page 16

#### **MONITOR**

Don't confuse this with a television monitor. When you turn on your computer (this is called a "coldstart"), the computer must be set up in a standard way before it can release control to a language (such as BASIC). The monitor is a machine-language program that performs this vital function. One of its first actions is to determine how much RAM it has to work with. This is done by checking the first byte of each 4K block of memory. If a value can be stored and recovered from that byte, that 4K block is assumed to be functional.

The total memory available, counted in "pages," is stored at memory location 106 (called RAMTOP). A page of memory is defined as 256 contiguous bytes whose first byte is evenly divisible by 256. To find the total memory available for your use, multiply the value found in RAMTOP by 256. You'll find that available memory is always less than the amount installed in the computer. This is because some of the memory is appropriated for use by the OS, the 6502 chip and BASIC.

The monitor performs many other functions during a coldstart. It clears all of RAM (by setting each location to zero) and initializes "pointers" (locations that contain the address of a particular table or routine). It then proceeds to initialize (set up) the device handlers. These are machine-language routines that control the editor, screen, keyboard, serial printer and cassette recorder. The monitor also determines whether a cartridge is installed and, if so, prepares for its subsequent use. Finally, it checks to see if a machine-language program needs to be "booted" in from cassette or disk.

#### **BOOTING**

The term "boot" is a piece of jargon that derives from the word "bootstrap," which was made famous by the phrase, "lifting yourself up by your own bootstraps." Bootstrapping is a technique by means of which a program brings itself into an operating state by its own action. Thus, the monitor contains a bootstrap loader,

a routine that is capable of reading the initial instructions of another machine-language program. The program being read is set up so that its initial instructions cause the rest of the program to be loaded (i.e., it is a "bootable" program).

When all of this has been accomplished, the monitor releases control to the installed cartridge or the booted program. If neither is present, the Operating System goes into "memo pad" mode. In this mode, anything you type will appear on the screen, but nothing else will happen.

The monitor also handles the RESET sequence, which occurs when you press the [SYSTEM RESET] key. This is termed a "warmstart." Many of the functions of a coldstart are also performed during RESET. One of the big differences is that RESET clears only the RAM area used by the OS. Your BASIC program is *not* wiped out, as it would be if you turned off the computer.

There are a number of tricks we can play with the monitor. For example, we can go through the coldstart sequence without shutting off the computer. Simply POKE a one into location 580 and then press the [RESET] key (but remember that you'll erase any program in memory!). This has a number of uses. If you POKE this location from within a program, you can prevent users from gaining control of the program while it's running. If they press [RESET], the program will be erased and they'll have to start over. A more sophisticated use of this technique is to use it with a diskbooted program. In this case, if the [RESET] key is pressed by accident (or design), all is not lost. The coldstart sequence will automatically reboot the program.

## INTERRUPT PROCESSING

The interrupt system is one of the most powerful tools available to the creative programmer. This capability is built right into the 6502 microprocessor chip.

As computer jargon goes, the term "interrupt" is descriptive. There are two special pins (electrical connections) on the 6502. When the normal voltage to

either of these pins is lowered, this "interrupt" signal tells the microprocessor that some outside event is demanding its attention. The 6502 completes the instruction it is working on and then saves necessary information so that it can eventually return to the correct place within the main program. It then goes to a pair of specific memory locations where it finds the address of a machinelanguage routine to execute. The chip begins executing the machine-language instructions at the new address until it encounters the code for an RTI (Return from Interrupt) instruction. When the RTI is found, the chip goes back to the main program, retrieves the saved data, and then nonchalantly continues on as if nothing had happened. Since the interrupt routine is short and the microprocessor is very fast, the observer isn't even aware that the chip is playing hookey from the main program.

Corresponding to the two 6502 pins, there are two types of interrupts:

NMI (NonMaskable Interrupt) IRQ (Interrupt Request)

The IRQ's can be turned off so that the chip won't respond to them. This is done by a machine-language command which, unfortunately, disables all the IRQ's. NMI interrupts cannot be turned off at the processor chip. But to allow for greater flexibility in interrupt usage, the folks at Atari routed many of the interrupts through the helper chips. For example, some NMI's can be controlled by POKE commands to certain control registers before they reach the 6502. ANTIC controls the NMI's; POKEY and PIA handle the various IRQ's.

#### VBI'S AND DLI'S

Two NMI's provide the bulk of the graphics and animation power that is available to machine-language programmers. These are the Vertical Blank Interrupt (VBI) and Display List Interrupt (DLI). An understanding of VBI's requires a short disgression into the workings of your television.

The television screen is lit by an electron beam that sweeps across the face of the TV tube and hits phosphors. A full

continued on page 92

# THE END OF ODD MAN

Scoring and reward routines wrap it up

by JOHN and MARY HARRISON

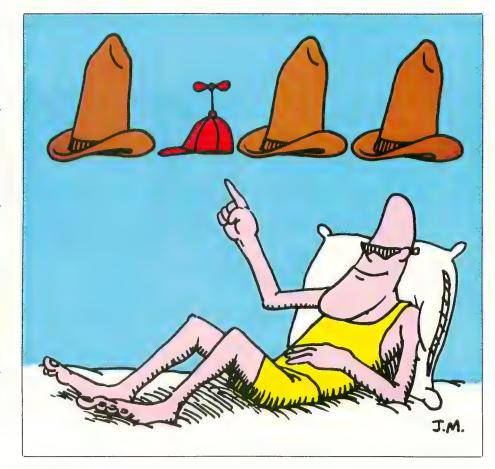
"The End of Odd Man" is the fourth installment in a series designed to teach the basics of writing educational software. The basis of the series is a program called Odd Man Out. Portions of the program appeared in the December 1983 and January 1984 issues of ANTIC. The final portion of the program, to be merged with the previous parts, is contained in Listing 1 at the end of this article. Listing 1, therefore, is not a complete program, and will not run on its own. The RAM requirements of the completed program are 24K (cassette) or 32K (disk). —ANTIC ED

In the "Odd Man" series, we've discussed a number of techniques that can be used to improve the quality of user-written educational software. This month we'll conclude our discussion of this topic, and the program Odd Man Out, by covering the remainder of the program and recapping some of the highlights of the series, which began in the November 1983 issue.

## THE MAKING OF ODD MAN

So far we've presented, in bits and pieces, a program designed to develop visual discrimination skills in preschool children. If we add scoring and reward rou-

John and Mary Harrison are parents, teachers and Atari hobbyists. Mary teaches math and computer science at the high school level. John holds an M.S. in computer science and develops educational software. They coordinate the Education Department for ANTIC.



tines to the portions of the program that have already appeared, Odd Man Out will be complete. Let's take a look at how this can be done.

Last month, we introduced Odd Man's joystick-movement and answerselect routine (lines 2500–2840). If we now add lines 2860–3080 (see Listing 1), the program will be able to determine if the correct shape has been selected, and to display a "happy" or "sad" face in response. In addition, the program

will now keep track of the number of incorrect answers; this number is used in the reward routine.

Because the happy and sad faces are redefined characters, some additional work is required to enter the new character values. This is accomplished in lines 160, 600, 1360 and 4500 – 4600 of Listing 1. We've used the same techniques developed in "Odd Man Reforms" (ANTIC, December, 1983) to draw,

continued on next page

define and store the values for these new characters.

#### REWARDING A JOB WELL DONE

If a child is going to play Odd Man Out more than once, the game must give the child a sense of accomplishment. Parental praise is the child's most important reward, of course, but it never hurts to have the Atari computer offer a few kind words. Because of this, we designed a simple reward routine that incorporates the child's name. The computer clears the screen and then prints:

# YEAH "NAME" "NUMBER RIGHT"

Three stars appear on the screen above the child's name if he or she has answered at least eight questions correctly. If nine answers are correct, a series of small dots explode in a display of Atari fireworks. A perfect score causes this display to flash and a siren to sound. The child simply presses the fire button to return to the menu after the reward sequence has been completed.

The reward routine is contained in lines 3100–4120. This segment of the program takes advantage of the fact that standard Atari characters are stored in the same manner as those we have created for Odd Man Out. It appears that the reward sequence mixes graphics and text on the screen, but we actually used the Graphics 5 mode to "draw" the letters used in the display.

The subroutine in lines 3760–3920 is used to display the text stored in DISP\$. By determining the X and Y coordinates (PXO,PYO), the text can be centered on the screen. Next, each letter in the reward message is broken down into a series of numbers that describe the bit map of the character. This allows it to be plotted on the screen. The characters are originally drawn in one color. Different color registers are then used to generate the reward display's pulsating effect.

# TRACKING A CHILD'S PROGRESS

One of our goals for Odd Man Out was

to make it possible to monitor a child's progress in playing the game. As a result, we've provided a simple, yet effective, monitoring system as part of the program. Lines 700–760 open RECORD. DAT, the file that is used to store data concerning a child's progress. Lines 4060–4080 write this information to disk after each complete game. This occurs without the child's knowledge, and is thus not a distraction as he or she plays (and learns).

The monitoring program is contained in Listing 2. To review your child's progress, type RUN "D:MONITOR. BAS". The program will read the data from the disk and display it for you. You are given the option to delete this data after you've examined it.



#### **SUMMARY**

This concludes our series on Odd Man and the writing of educational software for preschool children. Listing 1 contains new code that needs to be added to the program listings that were published in the December and January issues. If you've been entering the various parts of the program as the Odd Man series has developed, you need only enter Listing 1 to complete the program. (The January installment explains how to merge the December and January segments of the listing.)

Now let's look back on what we set out to accomplish with the Odd Man series and how these goals were met.

In "Odd Man Out" (ANTIC, November 1983), we discussed the process of selecting an educational topic that is appropriate for the Atari computer to handle. Not every educational topic can, or should, be presented in this way; you shouldn't try to do the impossible. You should be imaginative, however.

Once you've selected a topic, you need to set specific objectives and stick to them. Programs of limited and welldefined scope are the easiest ones to write and use.

Your first step is to decide what kind of educational software you want to develop. Do you want to create a drill-and-practice program, a tutorial, a simulation, or a combination of these choices? Then, when you've finished the program, write a detailed description of what it does, and how it does it. Otherwise, you'll find yourself looking at the code six months later and wondering how and why the program was written.

In "Odd Man Reforms" (ANTIC, December 1983), we described a specific technique that we have found to be useful in the writing of educational software. The Atari computer has the ability to easily redefine character sets. This reduces the burden that is usually encountered by programmers who want to display figures on the screen. Since we used this technique extensively in Odd Man Out, we put a great deal of thought into the assignment of locations for redefined characters within the Atari character set. We wanted to ensure that the standard numerals and letters would be available as required and that they would not require any additional manipulations.

Last month, in "Odd Man At Play," we discussed simple character animation. We used this technique to add some game elements to the program to increase its level of interest for young children. In this application, the flexibility of the Atari character set was again evident.

This month's installment ties up the loose ends and concludes the listings for Odd Man Out. We hope that the techniques we've discussed will be useful to you in your own endeavors. Perhaps they'll even provide you with a starting point for that educational program you've been planning to write, but didn't know how to approach. Finally, we hope that those of you with young children will find that Odd Man Out is a worthwhile and challenging educational program, and that it will help your children develop their visual discrimination skills.

```
Requires 24K RAM (cassette) or 32K RAM (disk)
   REM ************
20 REM *
30 REM *
                ODD MAN OUT
40 REM *
                     BY
          JOHN AND MARY HARRISON
50 REM *
60 REM *
  REM *
                     FOR
7 Ø
               ANTIC MAGAZINE
80
   REM *
90 REM
95 REM ******
160 DIM FACE$ (48)
600 FOR I-1 TO 48:READ X:FACE$(I,I)-CH
R$(X):NEXT I
700 TRAP 720:OPEN #4,9,0,"D:RECORD.DAT
":GOTO 760
720 REM TRAP ROUTINE IF RECORD.DAT DOE
S NOT EXIST
740 CLOSE #4:OPEN #4,8,0,"D:RECORD.DAT
760 TRAP 40000
780 REM INPUT CHILD'S NAME
800 GRAPHICS 0:OPEN #5,4,0,"E:"
820 POSITION 2,5:? "Hello.
                             What is yo
ur name? "";:INPUT #5;NAME$
840 POSITION 2,7:? "Plug your joystick
 into port number 1 and press the fire
 button to begin."
860 IF STRIG(0) <> 0 THEN 860
1070 FOR DEL=1 TO 25:NEXT DEL
1360 RAM$ (209, 256) = FACE$ (1, 48)
2860 POSITION INT(LE) * 4+3+(CHOICE=7),8
:? #6;"\"
2880 POSITION 9,1:? #6;":;"
2900 IF INT(LE) <> ODD THEN 3000
2920 POSITION 9,2:? #6;"<="
2940 FOR K=121 TO Ø STEP -5:SOUND Ø, K,
12,8:SOUND 1,K+5,12,8:NEXT K:SOUND Ø,Ø
,0,0:SOUND 1,0,0,0
2960 FOR DEL-1 TO 75:NEXT DEL
2980 POSITION 9,1:? #6;"
                           ": POSITION 9
, 2:? #6;" ":? "™":RETURN
3000 POSITION 9,2:? #6;">?"
3020 FOR K=1 TO 30:SOUND 0,60,12,7:SOU
ND Ø,6Ø,12,8:NEXT K:SOUND Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø
3040 IF FLAG-0 THEN WRONG-WRONG+1:FLAG
= 1
3060 POSITION 9,1:? #6;" ":POSITION 9
,2:? #6;"
3 9 8 9 POSITION INT(LE) * 4 + 3 + (CHOICE = 7), 8
:? #6;"[":? "E":GOTO 254Ø
3100 REM REWARD ROUTINE
3120 POKE AF, Ø
3140 GRAPHICS 21:FOR I=0 TO 2:SETCOLOR
I, 4, 6: NEXT I: SETCOLOR 4, 7, Ø: C-1
3160 DISP$="YEAH": PY0=22:GOSUB 3760
318Ø DISP$ = NAME$: PY0 = 31: GOSUB 3760
3200 IF WRONG-0 THEN 3240
3 2 2 Ø DISP$="
               RIGHT": DISP$ (1,1) = STR$ (1
Ø-WRONG):GOTO 326Ø
```

```
3240 DISP$-"PERFECT"
3260 PY0-40:GOSUB 3760
3280 REM ROUTINE FOR ATLEAST 8 RIGHT
3300 IF WRONG>2 THEN 4060
3320 COLOR 1:PLOT 40,0:DRAWTO 40,10:PL
OT 35,5:DRAWTO 45,5
334Ø COLOR 2:PLOT 42,3:DRAWTO 38,7:PLO
T 38,3:DRAWTO 42,7
3360 REM ROUTINE FOR ATLEAST 9 RIGHT
3380 IF WRONG>1 THEN 4060
3400 COLOR 1:PLOT 10,12:DRAWTO 20,12:P
LOT 15,7:DRAWTO 15,17
3420 COLOR 2:PLOT 17,9:DRAWTO 13,15:PL
OT 13,9:DRAWTO 17,15
3440 COLOR 1:PLOT 60,12:DRAWTO 70,12:P
LOT 65,7:DRAWTO 65,17
3460 COLOR 2:PLOT 67,9:DRAWTO 63,15:PL
OT 63,9:DRAWTO 67,15
3480 REM ROUTINE FOR 10 RIGHT
3500 IF WRONG>0 THEN 4060
3520 SETCOLOR 2,3,4:COLOR 3
354Ø FOR LP-1 TO 15:X-INT(8Ø*RND(Ø)):Y
-INT(20*RND(0))
3560 GOSUB 3940:PLOT X,Y:NEXT LP
3580 REM SOUND EFFECTS FOR PERFECT SCO
RE
3600 L0-50
3620 FOR I-1 TO 20:FOR J-0 TO 13
364Ø SETCOLOR Ø, J, 8
3660 SETCOLOR 1, J+1, 8
368Ø SETCOLOR 2, J+2, 8
3700 SOUND 0, LO, 10, 14:LO-LO-1:IF LO<35
 THEN LO-50
3720 NEXT J:NEXT I:SOUND 0,0,0,0
3740 GOTO 4060
3760 PX0-(80-LEN(DISP$)*10)/2:PX-PX0:C
-1:COLOR C
3780 FOR I-1 TO LEN(DISP$):PY-PYO
3800 CHAR-ASC(DISP$(I,I))-32:PTR-CHAR*
8 + 1
3820 FOR J-PTR TO PTR+7:BITM=ASC(ROM$(
J, J)):DIV-128
3840 FOR K-1 TO 8
3860 IF BITM/DIV>=1 THEN PLOT PX, PY; BI
TM-BITM-DIV
388Ø DIV-DIV/2:PX-PX+1:NEXT K:PX-PX0:P
Y = P Y + 1
3900 C=3-C
3920 COLOR C:NEXT J:PX0=PX0+10:PY=14:C
OLOR 1:NEXT I:RETURN
3940 REM EXPLOSION SOUND
396 Ø SOUND 2,75,8,15:V1-15:V2-15:V3-15
:ICR-0.079
3980 SOUND 0,20,8,V1:SOUND 1,40,8,V2:S
OUND 2,70,8, V3
4 Ø Ø Ø V 1 - V 1 * I C R : V 2 - V 2 * ( I C R + Ø . Ø 5 ) : V 3 - V 3 *
(ICR+\emptyset.\emptyset8)
4020 IF V3>1 THEN 3980
4949 SOUND Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø: SOUND 1, Ø, Ø, Ø: SOUND
2, Ø, Ø, Ø: RETURN
```

continued on next page

```
4 Ø 6 Ø REM CONDUCT RECORD KEEPING AND LOOK FOR JOYSTICK INPUT TO CONTINUE
4 Ø 8 Ø ? #4; NAME$:? #4; CHOICE:? #4; 1 Ø - WR
ONG
4 1 Ø Ø IF STRIG(Ø) <> Ø THEN 4 1 Ø Ø
4 1 2 Ø GOTO 8 8 Ø
4 1 4 Ø GRAPHICS Ø:CLOSE #4:END
4 1 6 Ø REM
4 5 Ø Ø DATA Ø,7,24,32,76,76,64,64
4 5 2 Ø DATA Ø,224,24,4,5 Ø,5 Ø,2,2
4 5 4 Ø DATA 6 4,72,68,67,32,24,7,0
4 5 6 Ø DATA 2,10,18,226,4,24,224,0
4 5 8 Ø DATA 6 4,67,68,70,32,24,7,0
4 6 Ø Ø DATA 2,194,34,18,4,24,224,0
```

#### TYPO TABLE

```
Variable checksum = 859076
                          Code
   Line num range
                                 Length
   10
            - 600
                           HL
                                  401
   700
              1360
                           V M
                                   518
   2860
            - 3020
                           0 I
                                  596
   3 Ø 4 Ø
            - 3260
                           LX
                                  512
            - 3440
   3280
                           V O
                                  537
   3460
              3680
                           V C
                                  451
   3700
            - 3920
                           GI
                                  485
            - 4100
   3940
                           R M
                                  521
   4128
            - 4600
                           LU
                                  2 Ø 9
```

```
10 REM
20 REM
             ODD MAN OUT MONITOR
30 REM
40 REM
                      BY
50 REM
60 REM
           JOHN AND MARY HARRISON
70 REM
80 REM
                       F O R
90 REM
100 REM
110 REM
                 ANTIC MAGAZINE
120 REM
130
    REM
140
    DIM
        NAME$ (20), Z$ (5)
150
    OPEN #5,4,0,"E:"
168 TRAP 320
170 OPEN #2,4,0,"D:RECORD.DAT"
180 TRAP 40000
190 GRAPHICS 0: POKE 752, 1: REM POKE 16,
112:POKE 53774,112
200 POSITION 11,1:? "ODD MAN OUT REPOR
7"
210 POSITION 2,3:? "NAME":POSITION 20,
3:? "LEVEL
                SCORE":?
220 TRAP 350
230 CTR-0
240 INPUT #2; NAME$: INPUT #2; LEVEL: INPU
T #2:SCORE
250 X-20-LEN(NAME$)
```

260 ? NAME\$;:POKE 201,X:? ,LEVEL;:POKE

| 27Ø CTR=CTR+1                                |   |
|--|---|
| 280 IF CTR<15 THEN 240                       |   |
| 290 ? "Press RETURN to contine.";            |   |
| 300 INPUT #5; Z\$                            |   |
| 31Ø ? "™":GOTO 2ØØ                           |   |
| 320 REM FILE DOES NOT EXIST TRAP             |   |
| 330 IF PEEK(195) <> 170 THEN ? "ERROR -      |   |
| "; PEEK (195);" IN LINE 170": CLOSE #2:EN    | l |
| D  |   |
| 340 ? "FILE RECORD.DAT DOES NOT EXIST        |   |
| UNABLE TO PROVIDE REPORT.":CLOSE #2          | : |
| END  |   |
| 350 REM OUT OF DATA TRAP                     |   |
| 360 POKE 84,20:POKE 201,10:POKE 752,0        |   |
| 370 IF PEEK(195) <> 136 THEN ? "ERROR -      |   |
| "; PEEK (195); " IN LINE "; PEEK (186) + 256 | ķ |
| PEEK (187)                                   |   |
| 380 CLOSE #2                                 |   |
| 390 ? "Press RETURN to continue"             |   |
| 400 INPUT #5;Z\$:? "图"                       |   |
| 410? "Do you want to delete the stor         | 8 |
| d information? ";:INPUT #5;Z\$               |   |
| 420 IF Z\$(1,1)="Y" THEN OPEN #2,8,0,"       | D |
| :RECORD.DAT":CLOSE #2                        |   |
| 430 END                                      |   |
|  |   |

#### TYPO TABLE

| ٧ | а | r | i | a | h | ı | 8 | C | h | 8 | G | k | S | u | m | _ | 1 | 4 | 7 | ØE  | 4 |   |     |   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|---|-----|---|---|---|--|
| Ī | _ |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 8 |   |   |   |   | d e |   | L | Э П | g | t | h |  |
|   |   |   | 1 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 2 | Ø |   |   |   |   |   | ٧ | В   |   | 1 | 1 2 | Ø |   |   |  |
|   |   |   | 1 | 3 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | 4 | Ø |   |   |   |   |   | В | M   |   | 1 | 1 1 | 3 |   |   |  |
|   |   |   | 2 | 5 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 6 | Ø |   |   |   |   |   | Q | W   |   | 1 | 1 4 | 3 |   |   |  |
|   |   |   | 3 | 7 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 4 | 3 | Ø |   |   |   |   |   | B | L   |   |   | 3 1 | 8 |   |   |  |



201,9:? ,SCORE

A

# LOGO BOOKS

# The lowdown on Atari Logo

by KEN HARMS

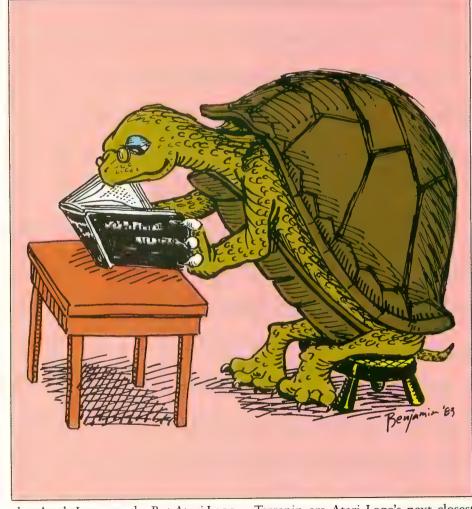
When Atari decided to implement Logo, it chose to make its version compatible with Apple Logo, which is produced by LCSI and sold by Apple. In fact, LCSI also wrote Atari's Logo. Although this means that we're forced to live with a few Apple-like quirks in our version of Logo, it also means that virtually all of Apple's Logo programs run under Atari Logo. In addition, most of the LCSI-oriented Logo books also fit our needs. Just as Atari intended, this element of compatibility between the two languages provides Atari users with access to a wealth of classroom-support materials, books, and other sources of valuable information.

#### ATARI LOGO'S KINFOLK

This month, I'll delve into a stack of Logo books and highlight the ones you may want to consider for your classroom or family. But first, a warning. Although all Logos are related, some relatives are closer than others.

Atari Logo's closest relative is Apple Logo. Books based on this language (often referred to as "LCSI-Logo") are 99% "upward compatible." In effect, this means that Atari Logo can do everything

Ken Harms, our Contributing Editor for the Logo/PILOT department, is Vice President of Administration for the California Division of the American Cancer Society.



that Apple Logo can do. But Atari Logo also offers extra features that Apple Logo doesn't — including animated turtles, multiple turtles, and more.

The Logo books produced by Krell/

Terrapin are Atari Logo's next closest relation. TI's Logo requires even more translation. And the TRS Color Computer's Logo isn't even a full Logo; it's continued on next page just a turtle-graphics package. My judgment is that the average Atari user will find that the LCSI/Apple Logo books are completely satisfactory, while the Krell/Terrapin books are acceptable. Personally, I'd leave the rest of the books alone, except those that have sections which explain how to translate material into either Apple or Atari Logo.

#### A LITTLE HELP FROM YOUR FRIENDS

One of the best support sources for Atari Logo users is the Young People's Logo Association (1208 Hillsdale Dr., Richardson, Texas 75081). A membership (\$9/year for students 18 or younger, \$25/year for adults) provides you with a hefty monthly newsleter, software exchange privileges and access to a bulletin board.

All of these materials are dedicated exclusively to Logo/PILOT. Although it supports several machines, each issue of the newsletter is loaded with Atari Logo programs and information, and the software exchange includes 30 disks of Atari Logo programs. A member can purchase a disk (or tape) for \$10, or, even better, can send in a personal program on a disk/tape (along with return postage) and receive a disk/tape of his or her choice with 12 to 15 programs on it. And anyone can log onto the bulletin board by calling (214) 783-7548 after 7:00 pm (CST). There's no cost for use of the board (but you pay your own phone bills, of course). It lists a number of special interest groups for Atari Logo and Atari PILOT. The board is currently set up to accept messages and handle electronic mail, but it will soon allow members to upload and download Atari programs.

#### **BOOKS FROM YPLA**

Jim Muller, the founder of the Young People's Logo Association (YPLA), is also coauthor, with Bearden and Martin, of *The Turtle Source Book* (200 pages, Reston Books, \$21.95). This excellent workbook-style manual is designed for the elementary classroom but can probably be used by most families, if an interested adult is present. The books does a good job of covering turtle

graphics, and is one of the few books on the subject whose language level is appropriate for youngsters.

#### LIST PROCESSING AND MORE

Apple Logo by Harold Abelson (217 pages, Byte/Neforan Hill, \$15.95) is one of the few books on Logo that covers list processing as well as turtle graphics. Although Atari users will have to convert the sections on I/O and paddle use to Atari Logo, Abelson provides us with a rich vein of new words (commands) for Logo, and a lucid explanation of advanced list handling. He also covers numerical calculations and programlogic controls by means of examples that I found helpful.

All in all, this is a well-rounded, solid book; the language level is high school or above, and the pages are dense with text. I'm hoping to see an Atari version soon. (By the way, watch out for *Logo for the Apple II* by the same author. It's based on MIT's Logo and is not quite as useful as *Apple Logo*, although it does supply a conversion table).

#### LEARNING WITH ATARI LOGO

Learning with (Atari) Apple Logo by Daniel Watt (358 pages, McGraw Hill, \$19.95) is an excellent text for teaching Logo to a class or a parent, child, spouse or friend. Watt combines cartoons with numerous "Helper's Hints" that teach the "helper" to help the learner. The result is that both will learn. The book's language level — simple in the cartoon sections and adult in the Helper's Hint sections — is appropriate. Like Apple Logo, it helps you to build an excellent repertoire of words (commands), and it includes one of the best explanations I've seen of the names, objects and values used in Logo.

Watt also provides a simple game, SHOOT, which should be of interest and value to the budding Logo programmer.

This book is well illustrated and contains many interesting projects and pieces of good advice for teachers. I wasn't able to find the Atari version on

the book shelves, but I was impressed with the Apple text. Watt's *Learning with Logo* is based on Krell's Logo and, therefore, isn't as helpful, but it's still useful if it's all you can find.

The Source Book also includes offcomputer exercises that help to introduce the concepts of turtle graphics. In addition, a number of stickers are included with the workbook; for example, it includes numerals that can be attached to the CRT screen to make a clock/timereading program come alive. Finally, where appropriate, the book's activity pages are reproducible, so that a full classroom can use a single source book.

Although I haven't seen a copy yet, Reston Books should have a second YPLA book out by the time this column reaches you. 123 My Computer and Me (Reston Books, \$10.95), by Donna Bearden, is a "fun" companion to the Source Book. It's designed for the individual Logo explorer in the eight-to-twelve age group. Like the Source Book, it stresses turtle graphics.

#### DISCOVERING ATARI LOGO

Discovering Apple (Atari) Logo by David D. Thornburg (173 pages, Addison-Wesley, \$14.95) is probably the most complete, and the most beautiful, treatment of turtle graphics you can find. An Atari version of the book should be available by the time you read this, but it wasn't in yet at any of the book stores I visited.

Thornburg explores the Logo user's world of shapes and planes with an eye that is always sensitive to the "larger meaning of things." Although some passages may be difficult for youngsters, all will benefit from the author's insights and will enjoy the beautiful patterns that his always-simple programs create. Thronburg covers many advanced topics, including "tiles," tessellations, "squrals," fractals, trees, arcs, cricles, and spirals, and he makes them both understandable and inspiring. He's also the only person I know of who's come up with a convincing explanation of why you need to know about prime numbers: you can use them to draw stars! Twelve

#### LOGO/PILOT

color photos enhance an already enjoyable book.

#### A LOGO PRIMER

Apple Logo Primer by Gary Bitter and Nancy Watson (206 pages, Reston Books, \$14.95) offers a unique approach: It includes a section for the complete novice, one for people who are generally familiar with Logo, and a third section on the history of the language. Graphic outputs are illustrated by screen photos (most books use printed graphics) that are realistic but often muddy. The section on list processing is short but helpful.

One of the book's nice touches is that the authors assign memorable words, such as "Open a blank" for Control O. to help users learn Logo's "weird" control commands. The practice activities made me feel like I was back in school. The language is occasionally tough for kids - "alternative" is used instead of "choice," and "identical results" is used in place of "the same thing" - but advanced sixth graders should be able to handle it. The primer's strongest feature, in my opinion, is an excellent index/glossary that often tells you what you need to know without forcing you to turn to the referenced pages. Its excellent cover-reference cards round out a thoughtful approach.

# NON-LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT

Introductory Logo by Peter Ross (241 pages, Addison-Wesley, \$12.95) looked interesting at first sight. Unfortunately, that's as far as I got. Its dot-matrix printing looked so ugly that I didn't read the text.

#### **SUMMARY**

Several excellent Logo texts are currently available, and more are on the way. In particular, you should watch for Atarispecific editions of existing Apple books. I'll continue to review materials as they become available. In the meantime, the books I've mentioned this month should provide a good foundation for your Atari Logo library.

# OLYMPICS ARE COMING!



Did you know that the

Atari Computers are the Official

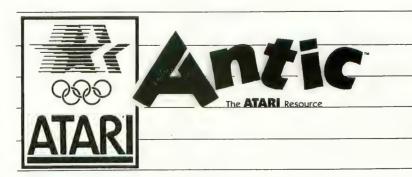
home computers of the 1984 SUMMER OLYMPICS?

Well, what are you going to do about it?

Exercise your Atari and your brain.

Show us your Stuff!

If it is truly Olympian, we will print your article, program, game or art in



# A GREETING CARD FOR FURNISHER ALL SEASONS THER Say it on cassette

by WILLIAM L. HENSON

id you ever wake up in the morning with the sinking sensation that it's Valentine's Day (or Mother's Day, or a special birthday) and you've forgotten to buy a card for someone? Or worse, did you realize that the loved one in question would attribute your dereliction of duty to your having spent too many hours in front of your Atari? The only solution to this dilemma is to leap out of bed and resort to the All-Occasion Card. This life-saving program allows

William L. Henson is an attorney who specializes in contract disputes. He became hooked on personal computers after meeting Chris Crawford in the summer of 1978. An Atari 800 joined the family in 1982. His wife Julie and five-year-old daughter Elizabeth are also Atari enthusiasts,

you to make a selection from ten different backgrounds, and permits you to write a message of up to three lines of horizontally scrolling text,

After you LOAD the program, your first task is to assign characters to A\$, B\$ and C\$ in lines 460–480. For the best results, these line lengths should not be changed and your messages should be centered.

Your next task is to RUN the program. Each data line has a descriptive string leader that describes the character it creates. Lines 250–280 read and print these labels with their corresponding line numbers. You're then asked to enter the line number of the background you wish to use.

Lines 320-390 relocate the Graphics 1 and 2 character set continued on page 28

Computers may be the world's best spellers, but they're the world's worst spelling teachers.

Or at least they used to be. Until Chatterbee.

Chatterbee is a unique piece of

home computer software that not only makes teaching possible, it makes learning fun. For little people. And big people, too.

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does something that no other spelling software can do.

Talk. It's equipped with a customized version of the S.A.M. speech synthesizer,

developed by Don't Ask for Tronix to provide voice output.

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Each word is spoken, then

put in a contextual sentence. Just like a spelling bee. With one important difference.

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embarrassment.

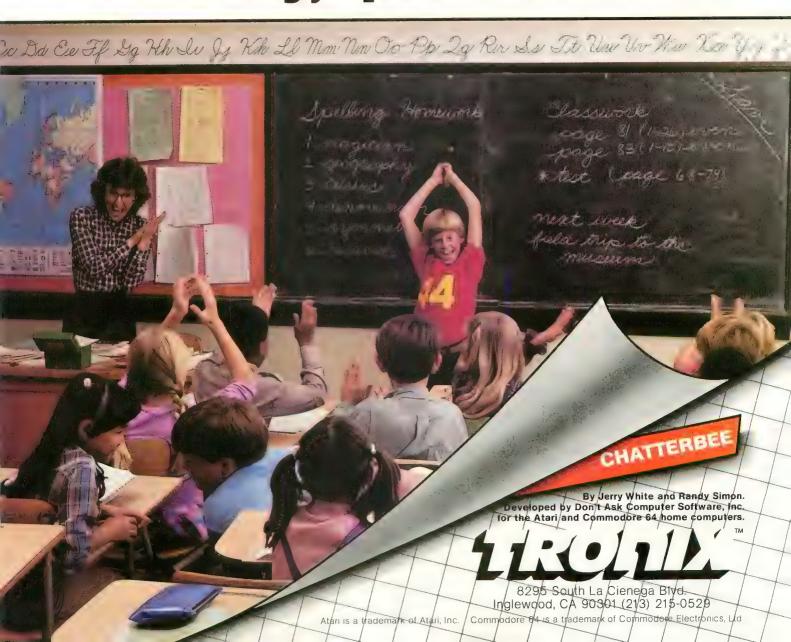
Each of the 2500 words have been selected from current educational literature. And there's an internal scoring system that automatically places each player at the right level of difficulty and challenge.

The external scoring system

rewards success and turns the whole thing into a game, complete with music.

Chatterbee. The spelling bee without the sting.

# Hear today, spell tomorrow.



to RAM. Line 360 calculates the address of the background character (or space) for the lower-case graphics set. Line 410 discards the data label. Lines 420–440 customize the background character with chosen data. The last number in each data line selects a color for the character. This number is POKEd into Color Register 0.

Line 490 selects lower case. Line 500 allows the background color to vary randomly (if the REM is removed). Line 510 varies the text color. Luminances for text and background are set to ensure that the text never "merges" with the background.

Lines 520–630 print the message strings. The loop creates the illusion that messages scroll from right to left. This scrolling is a bit uneven, but the card's recipient is usually too pleased to notice this. (The elimination of one message line and variation of the delay loop at line 620 may help matters somewhat.) Three message lines seem to be the limit for simple BASIC.

Of course, there is no reason that other characters cannot be used. For purposes of experimentation, you can modify any line of data. For example, draw an  $8 \times 8$  block on a piece of graph paper. Color the blocks in any way you wish. Treat each line as a binary number (empty = 0, full = 1). Translate each line to decimal form, and list a data line. Then substitute your new numbers for the first eight numbers in the data line.

To experiment with color, change the last number in the data line. Replace the old label with your new one. Then RUN the program and choose your line.

If you wish to use Graphics 1, subtract one from line 350. To "proportion" the page, add three to *each* POSITION statement in lines 530–610.

Any good thing can be run into the ground, of course. But by varying the backgrounds on the All-Occasion Card, you can ensure that it won't grow stale too soon. The number of times you should use the card depends on two factors: How many Atari owners you know, and how brave you are. In addition, the All-Occasion Card can be used as an interesting display at meetings and other social gatherings.

The most economical means of delivering the card is via cassette. Don't forget to provide loading instructions. And remember, on those special occasions when disaster seems to be guaranteed, the All-Occasion Card is here to help.

#### Requires 16K RAM

```
REM * ALL OCCASION CARD
95
   REM
           BY WILLIAM HENSON
96
97
   REM
             ANTIC MAGAZINE
98
   REM
             FEBUARY, 1984
   REM
        * * * * * * * *
100 DATA SMILE, 0, 60, 90, 126, 90, 102, 60, 0
, 26
    DATA TREE, Ø, Ø, 24, 60, 126, 24, 24, Ø, 20
110
120
    DATA CAKE, Ø, Ø, 42, 42, 42, 127, 127, 127
, 57
130 DATA LOGO, 28, 28, 28, 28, 42, 73, 0, 0, 25
140 DATA CAR, 0, 0, 56, 68, 127, 127, 34, 0, 70
150 DATA PICKUP, Ø, Ø, 12, 10, 127, 127, 34, Ø
```

```
, 87
160 DATA VAN, 0, 0, 126, 125, 127, 127, 34, 0,
156
170 DATA SHAMROCK, Ø, 24, 24, 124, 124, 16, 8
, Ø , 212
180 DATA PUMPKIN, 4, 8, 60, 90, 126, 66, 60, 0
, 38
190
    DATA HEART, Ø, 54, 127, 127, 62, 28, 8, Ø,
5 2
200
    DIM A$ (20)
    BIM B$ (20)
210
220
    DIM C$ (20)
230
    DIM D$ (20)
240
    GRAPHICS Ø
25 Ø
    FOR C-100 TO 190 STEP 10
260
    RESTORE C
27Ø READ C$: PRINT C;" "; C$
280 NEXT C
290 PRINT "SELECT BACKGROUND #"
300 INPUT X
310 RESTORE X
320 RAMTOP=PEEK (106)
330 CBASE=RAMTOP-4
340 POKE 106, CBASE
350 GRAPHICS 18
360 CADR = CBASE * 256
370 FOR C=0 TO 1023
38Ø POKE CADR+C, PEEK (57344+C)
390 NEXT C
    SPACE = CADR+64*8
400
410
    READ CS
420
    FOR C-0 TO 7
    READ DTA: POKE (SPACE+C), DTA
430
    NEXT C:READ DTA:POKE 708,DTA
440
    D $ = "
          ": D $ (20) = D $ : D $ (2) = D $
450
    A $ - "
460
            happy mother's day
    B $ = "
470
                    from
    C $ = "
480
            elizabeth and bill
    POKE 756, CBASE+2
    REM SETCOLOR Ø, INT((14*RND(1))), 2
    SETCOLOR 1, INT ((14*RND(1))), 8
5 1 Ø
520 FOR X=1 TO 19
530 POSITION 0,3
540 ? #6; A$(X); : ? #6; A$(1, X)
    POSITION 0,4:? #6; D$
55Ø
56Ø
    POSITION Ø,6
    ? #6;B$(X);:? #6;B$(1,X)
5 7 Ø
    POSITION 0,7:? #6; D$
580
590
    POSITION Ø,9
600 ? #6; C$(X);:? #6; C$(1, X)
    POSITION Ø, 10: ? #6; D$
    FOR L=1 TO 55: NEXT L
630
    NEXT X
    GOTO 500
640
```

#### TYPO TABLE

|   |   |   |   | - |   |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | _ |   |   | _ |   |   |        |    |     |     |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------|----|-----|-----|---|---|
| 1 | a | r | ĺ | a | b | Ī | 8 |   | C | h | θ | C | k | S | u | m | = | = | 230327 |    |     |     |   |   |
|   |   |   | L | ĺ | n | 8 |   | n | u | m |   | r | a | n | g | 8 |   |   | Code   | Le | n j | g 1 | h |   |
|   |   |   | 9 | 5 |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 6 | Ø |   |   |   |   | КВ     | 3  | 9 4 | 1   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 1 | 7 | Ø |   |   |   |   | - |   | 2 | 8 | Ø |   |   |   |   | ΥY     | 2  | 5   | 5   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 2 | 9 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 4 | Ø | Ø |   |   |   |   | D:M    | 1  | 9   | 8   |   |   |
|   |   |   | 4 | 1 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 5 | 2 | Ø |   |   |   |   | LW     | 3  | 3 ( | 6   |   | _ |
|   |   |   | 5 | 3 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 6 | 4 | Ø |   |   |   |   | QΥ     | 3  | 4   | 1   |   |   |

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|                    | Expires  |   |   |                                       |
|                    |  | Signature   |   |                                       |
|                    | The second secon | Name  |   |                                       |
| i anna             | to the same to the same  | Address   |   |                                       |
|                    |  | City  | State   | Zip                                   |
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he Stock Portfolio Spreadsheet makes it easy for you to keep track of your portfolio of stocks. It lists stocks alphabetically by ticker symbol and includes fields for all pertinent data. Room for 200 stocks is provided (with a 40K Atari). Several summary figures are also provided, and you can add other summary fields if you like. The final report can be listed to either the screen or a printer, or can be stored to disk. Cassette users can store this data by incorporating the changes noted later in the article. Stored reports can also be read and updated with this program.

#### ENTERING THE PROGRAM

Listing 1 below is the BASIC program. Listing 2 is the relocatable assembly-language sort routine found in the DATA statements at the end of Listing 1, and need not be typed in to

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use the spreadsheet. After you type in Listing 1, use TYPO to find any typing errors, and SAVE a backup copy for safety.

#### USING THE PROGRAM

The first prompt requests a U for "Update Old File" or C for "Create New File." C erases any previously saved data on the disk. For all prompts, press [RETURN] after responding.

The next prompt reads: ADD, CHANGE, LIST, PRINT, or SAVE.

#### ADDING ENTRIES

If you choose A in response to the last prompt, you are asked to input a symbol for your new stock. This can be from one to six characters long; different symbols must be supplied for multiple entries of a single stock (e.g., Ataril, Atari2, Atari3).

Next, you are prompted to enter the number of shares, cost per share, and current price of the stock. The next prompt asks you to supply the annual dividend per share. After doing this, you'll be returned to the main menu.

continued on next page

#### CHANGING AND DELETING ENTRIES

If you choose this option, you must specify which entry is to be changed by entering its symbol. Next, type D to delete the entry or M to modify it. If you choose the latter, you will be presented with the same series of prompts described above (under "Adding Entries"). To change a parameter, type in the new value followed by [RETURN]. If you simply press [RETURN] in response to any prompt, the old value will be retained.

#### LISTING, PRINTING, AND SAVING

To list your report to the screen, choose L from the main menu. On a 40-column screen, the entries for individual stocks are hard to read, but the summary figures are more legible. The "Print" option produces an 80-column listing on a printer.

Before ending a session with the spreadsheet, the updated listing should be stored to disk with the Save command. The program uses the file name STOCK.DAT. If a larger number of entires are to be added or modified, I recommend that you Save your data several times during the session to protect against its accidental loss.

#### **CASSETTE OPERATION**

You should reserve three cassettes for use with the Stock Portfolio Spreadsheet; one for the program, one for the old portfolio listing, and one for the new portfolio listing. Change lines 120 and 990 to read:

```
120 OPEN #3,4,0,"C:"
990 CLOSE #3: OPEN #3,8,0,"C:"
```

To update the old listing, select U from the main menu. After the beep, load the tape containing the old portfolio listing, press PLAY on the recorder, and then press [RETURN] on the computer.

To save the new listing to tape, load a blank cassette into the recorder and press RECORD and PLAY. Then choose S from the main menu. After the double beep, press [RETURN]. Patience is required for these operations, because cassette storage is quite slow.

#### ADDING NEW SUMMARY LINES

Insert new lines in the program starting with line 1411. Quantities available for manipulation are GSHR (total shares),

GCOS (total cost), GVAL (total current value), and GINC (total income). For example, if you call a new quantity GXXX, add these lines:

```
1411 GXXX = expression
1412 S$ = STR$(GXXX):GOSUB 1430:
PRINT #3;" description ";S$
```

This will display the quantity to within two decimal places of accuracy. For three-place accuracy, replace GOSUB 1430 with GOSUB 1460 in line 1412. If you want a percent symbol to appear after the new quantity, append; "%" to line 1412.

#### MACHINE-LANGUAGE SORT ROUTINE

Listing 2 provides the source code for the sort routine used in the spreadsheet in Assembler Editor syntax. The routine is relocatable and can sort up to 255 items. Assuming that the sort routine is contained in a string A\$ (as in the spreadsheet), the format for calling it is:

X = USR(ADR(A\$),ADR(SYMB\$),NREC,RECLEN)

Here, SYMB\$ is a string that contains NREC fields of RECLEN characters each. NREC and RECLEN must not exceed 255. The ordering of the sorted records is stored at address X, as returned by the sort routine. The sorter produces record indices from zero to NREC-1, so to load the Kth-ordered record you must set IREC = PEEK(X + K - 1) + 1 and load record IREC.

The routine uses a version of a radix sort and is very fast, since it does not perform actual data movement, but computes an ordering.

Starting with the least-significant bytes of the entries, the program alternately counts the occurrences of each byte (\$00–\$FF), and then calculates a cumulative partial sum. This is used to take entries in the old ordering and put them into a new ordering, according to the byte under examination. The ordering is finished when this process has been completed for the most significant byte.

The program uses indirect addresses in FR0 for the "old ordering," FR1 for the "new ordering," and FR2 for the accumulated counts. The sign bit of FR0 + 2 is used as a flag for pass 1 or 2 (plus or minus). FR0 + 3 contains the current offset into the entries for sorting. Other floating-point registers are used for intermediate results. The entire sort routine is 151 bytes long.

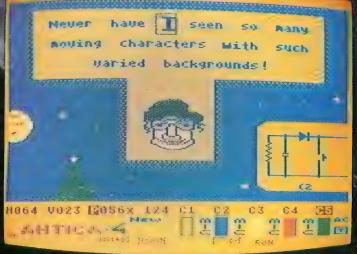
Requires 16K cassette & 24K disk

```
10 REM **
           STOCK PORTFOLIO **
15
   REM
            SPREAD SHEET
20
   REM * BY ERIC VERHEIDEN
   REM *
25
           ANTIC MAGAZINE
3 Ø
   REM
            FEBUARY, 1984
   REM
35
   DIM SYM$(6), ISYM$(6), ISTR$(1), INP$(
90), S$ (10), A$ (256)
50 DIM SHAR (200), SYMB$ (1200), COSTSH (20
Ø), TCOST(2ØØ)
60 DIM PRICESH(200), CURRVAL(200), YIELD
(200), DIV (200), INCOME (200), CHANGE (200)
```

```
180 SYMB$ (6*NREC-5) = INP$ (7,12)
190 S$=INP$(14,20): COSTSH(NREC) = VAL(S$
200 S$=INP$(33,40):PRICESH(NREC)=VAL(S
$ )
210 S$=INP$(58,63):DIV(NREC)=VAL(S$)
220 TCOST(NREC) - SHAR(NREC) * COSTSH(NREC
238 CURRVAL (NREC) - SHAR (NREC) * PRICESH (N
REC)
240 YIELD (NREC) = 100 * DIV (NREC) / PRICESH (
NREC)
250 INCOME (NREC) = SHAR (NREC) * DIV (NREC)
260 CHANGE(NREC) = 0: IF COSTSH(NREC) = 0 T
HEN 280
270 CHANGE(NREC)=100*(PRICESH(NREC)-CO
STSH(NREC))/COSTSH(NREC)
280 RETURN
290 CLOSE #3:IF NREC<0 THEN PRINT "FIL
E NOT FOUND": GO TO 80
300 PRINT "ADD, CHANGE, LIST, PRINT OR
SAVE"; : INPUT ISTRS
310 IF ISTR$="P" THEN 950
320 IF ISTR$ = "L" THEN 970
330 IF ISTR$="S" THEN 990
340 IREC=NREC+1: IF IREC>200 THEN PRINT
"TOO MANY RECORDS": STOP
350 IF ISTR$="A" THEN 790
360 IF ISTR$ <> "C" THEN 300
370 PRINT "STOCK TO CHANGE"; : INPUT ISY
M S
380 IF LEN(ISYM$)>0 THEN IF ASC(ISYM$(
1))=32 THEN ISYM$(1)=ISYM$(2):60 TO 38
Й
390 IF LEN(ISYM$)<6 THEN ISYM$(LEN(ISY
M$)+1)=" ":GO TO 390
400 IREC-0
410 IREC=IREC+1: IF IREC>NREC THEN PRIN
T "STOCK NOT FOUND": GO TO 300
420 SYMS=SYMB$ (6 * IREC-5, 6 * IREC)
430 IF SYM$ <> ISYM$ THEN 410
440 PRINT SHAR(IREC); "SHARES "; SYM$
450 S$-STR$ (COSTSH (IREC)): GOSUB 1460: P
RINT "COST PER SHARE $"; $$
460 S$=STR$ (TCOST (IREC)): GOSUB 1460: PR
INT "TOTAL COST $": S$
470 S$=STR$(PRICESH(IREC)):GOSUB 1460:
PRINT "CURRENT PRICE PER SHARE $"; S$
480 S$-STR$ (CURRVAL (IREC)): GOSUB 1460:
PRINT "CURRENT VALUE $"; S$
490 S$=STR$(YIELD(IREC)):GOSUB 1460:PR
INT "CURRENT YIELD "; $$; "%"
5 0 0 S = S T R $ ( D I V ( I R E C ) ) : G O S U B 1 4 6 0 : P R I N
T "DIVIDEND PER SHARE $"; S$
510 S$=STR$(INCOME(IREC)):GOSUB 1460:P
RINT "INCOME $"; S$
520 S$=STR$ (CHANGE (IREC)): GOSUB 1460: P
RINT "NET CHANGE "; $$;"%"
530 TRAP 300: PRINT "DELETE OR MODIFY E
NTRY";:INPUT ISTR$
540 IF ISTR$="M" THEN 640
550 IF ISTR$<>"D" THEN 530
560 IF IREC-NREC THEN 630
57Ø SYMB$ (6*IREC-5) = SYMB$ (6*IREC+1)
```

```
580 FOR I-IREC TO NREC-1
590 SHAR(I)=SHAR(I+1): COSTSH(I)=COSTSH
(I+1)
6 0 0 TCOST(I) = TCOST(I+1): PRICESH(I) = PRI
CESH(I+1)
6 1 Ø CURRVAL (I) - CURRVAL (I+1): YIELD (I) - Y
IELD(I+1)
620 DIV(I)-DIV(I+1): INCOME(I)-INCOME(I
+1): CHANGE (I) = CHANGE (I+1): NEXT I
630 NREC-NREC-1:GO TO 300
640 NREC-NREC+1
650 PRINT "NEW SYMBOL"::SYMB$(6*NREC-5
) = SYMB$ (6 * IREC-5, 6 * IREC) : INPUT SYM$
660 IF LEN(SYM$)>0 THEN IF ASC(SYM$(1)
)-32 THEN SYM$(1)=SYM$(2):GO TO 660
670 IF LEN(SYM$) = 0 THEN 700
680 IF LEN(SYM$) < 6 THEN SYM$(LEN(SYM$)
+1)=" ":GOTO 680
690 SYMB$ (6*NREC-5) = SYM$
700 PRINT "NEW SHARES"; : SHAR (NREC) = SHA
R(IREC): INPUT INP$
710 IF LEN(INP$)>0 THEN SHAR(NREC)=VAL
(INPS)
720 PRINT "NEW COST"; : COSTSH(NREC) = COS
TSH(IREC): INPUT INP$
730 IF LEN(INP$)>0 THEN COSTSH(NREC)=V
AL(INP$)
740 PRINT "NEW CURRENT PRICE"; : PRICESH
(NREC) = PRICESH(IREC): INPUT INP$
750 IF LEN(INP$)>0 THEN PRICESH(NREC)=
VAL(INP$)
760 PRINT "NEW DIVIDEND"; : DIV(NREC) = DI
V(IREC): INPUT INP$
770 IF LEN(INP$)>0 THEN DIV(NREC)=VAL(
INP$
780 GOSUB 220:GO TO 560
790 NREC-NREC+1: IREC=NREC
800 PRINT "SYMBOL"; : INPUT SYM$
810 IF LEN(SYM$)>0 THEN IF ASC(SYM$(1)
) = 32 THEN SYM$ (1) = SYM$ (2) : GO TO 810
820 IF LEN(SYM$) <6 THEN SYM$(LEN(SYM$)
+1)=" ": GOTO 820
830 \text{ SYMB} (6*IREC-5) = \text{SYM}
840 PRINT "SHARES"; : INPUT X: SHAR(IREC)
= X
850 PRINT "COST"; : INPUT X: COSTSH (IREC)
= X
860 PRINT "CURRENT PRICE";:INPUT X:PRI
CESH(IREC) = X
870 PRINT "DIVIDEND"; :INPUT X:DIV(IREC
) = X
880 TCOST(IREC) = SHAR(IREC) * COSTSH(IREC
890 CURRVAL (IREC) = SHAR (IREC) * PRICESH (I
REC)
900 YIELD (IREC) = 100 * DIV (IREC) / PRICESH (
IREC)
910 INCOME (IREC) = SHAR (IREC) * DIV (IREC)
920 CHANGE (IREC) = \emptyset: IF COSTSH (IREC) = \emptyset T
HEN 940
930 CHANGE (IREC) = 100* (PRICESH (IREC) - CO
STSH(IREC))/COSTSH(IREC)
940 GO TO 300
```

continued on page 35



Now you can take complete advantage of the mode 4 color character graphics capabilities of your Atari 48K 800 or 1200XL disc-based computer! This system provides total control over character generation and graphics mixing, with such features as:

AUTOMATIC CHARACTER FILE: ANTICA-4 lets you design character

- graphics without having to set up or catalogue your character-file. knows when you need a new character or simply an edit, and makes
- characters keyboard assignable.

  AUTOMATIC MULTI-CHARACTER MATTING: This feature lets you perfectly matte moving characters over a moving background, for full
- perfectly thate moving characters over a moving background, for character and graphics mixing.

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  MACRO-MICRO CONTROL: The field can be any shape and several times leaves that the screen. Work your field with character.
- times larger than the screen. Work your field with character resolution in the Macro mode, or build your characters with an enlarged view in the Micro mode.

- FINE-LINE DRAWING: Make fine-line drawings over complex
- backgrounds in any of your colors while ANTICA-4 continuously and automatically updates your character file.

  INTER-MODAL CONSISTENCY: Regardless of the character source, ANTICA-4 lets you easily switch between the editor, animation and building modes without loss of system integrity.

  PLUS: Full function matting editor.
- PLUS: Five speed fine-scrolling field.
- PLUS: Full color and luminosity control, with proportional dimming.
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NOVIN is proud to offer this fantastic package for \$49.95. ANTICA-4 arrives with a full character set and file of animated pictures. Ask for it at your computer store or order direct from us toll-free.

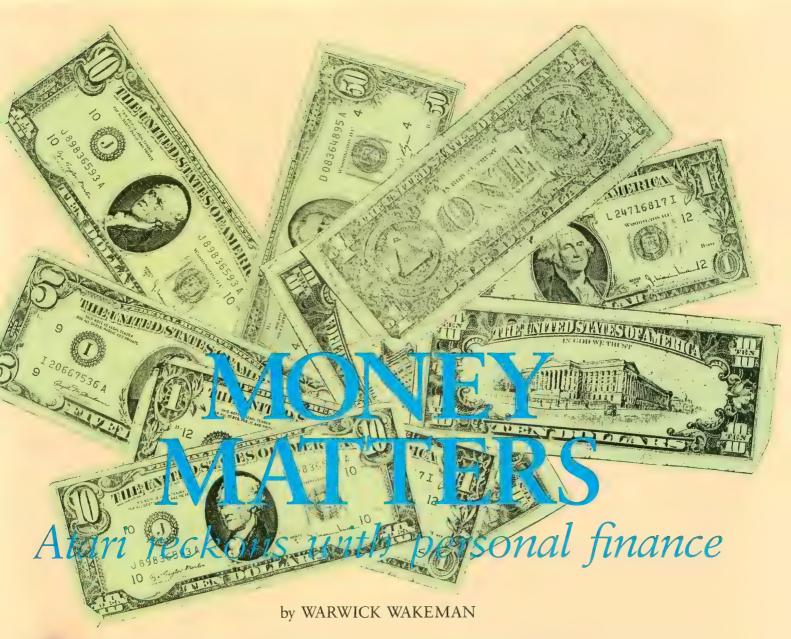
PO Box 22889 Seattle, Washington 98122



1-206-323-8270 Outside Washington call toll-free 1-800-422-5525

```
FOLLOW THAT STOCK continued from page 33
                                            1410 S$=STR$(GYIE):GOSUB 1430:PRINT #3
950 CLOSE #3: OPEN #3,8,0,"P:"
                                             "INCOME PER HOUR
                                                                $":5$
960 GOTO 1000
                                            142Ø CLOSE #3:GO TO 3ØØ
970 CLOSE #3: OPEN #3,8,0,"E:"
                                            1430 GOSUB 1460: S$ = S$ (1, I+2): RETURN
980 GO TO 1000
                                             1440 GOSUB 1450: JOLD=JOLD+1: RETURN
990 CLOSE #3:OPEN #3,8,0,"D:STOCK.DAT"
                                             145Ø GOSUB 146Ø: INP$(JOLD+3)="
1000 PRINT #3;" #SHR SYMBOL COST/SH TO
                                                ": INP$ (J+1-I) = S$: JOLD = J: RETURN
TAL COST PRICE/SH ";
                                             1460 FOR I=1 TO 10: IF I>LEN(S$) THEN S
1010 PRINT #3;"CURR VALUE %CHG
                                   DIV/SH
                                             $ (I) =".": GO TO 1490
   INCOME
            YIELD"
                                            1470 IF ASC(S$(I))=46 THEN 1490
1020 IF NREC-0 THEN 300
                                            1480 NEXT I:GO TO 1510
1030 X=USR(ADR(A$), ADR(SYMB$), NREC, 6)
                                            1490 IF LEN(S$)=I THEN S$(I+1)="00"
1 Ø 4 Ø G S H R = Ø : G C O S = Ø : G V A L = Ø : G I N C = Ø : F O R K
                                            1500 IF LEN(S$)=I+1 THEN S$(I+2)="0"
-1 TO NREC
                                            1510 IF LEN(S$)>I+3 THEN S$=S$(1,I+3)
1 Ø 5 Ø I R E C = P E E K ( X + K - 1 ) + 1
                                            1520 RETURN
1060 S$=STR$(SHAR(IREC)):GSHR=GSHR+SHA
                                            1530
                                                  DATA 104, 104, 133, 244, 104, 133, 243,
R(IREC):INP$(1)="
                                            1 0 4
1979 INP$ (6-LEN(S$))=S$:INP$(6)=""
                                            1540 DATA 104,133,242,104,104,133,216,
1080 INP$(7)=SYMB$(6*IREC-5,6*IREC)
                                            133
1090 S$=STR$(COSTSH(IREC)): JOLD=10
                                            1550 DATA 215,198,215,166,89,202,134,2
1100 J=17:GOSUB 1440
1110 S$=STR$ (TCOST (IREC)): GCOS=GCOS+TC
                                            1560 DATA 202,134,231,202,134,225,160,
OST (IREC)
                                            Ø
1120 J=29:GOSUB 1450
                                            1570 DATA 132,212,132,230,132,224,132,
1130 S$=STR$ (PRICESH (IREC))
                                            214
1140 J=36:GOSUB 1440
                                            1580 DATA 152,145,212,200,208,250,24,1
1150 S$=STR$ (CURRVAL (IREC)): GVAL=GVAL+
                                            02
CURRVAL (IREC)
                                            1590 DATA 214, 160, 0, 152, 72, 36, 214, 16
1160 J=48:GOSUB 1450
                                                  DATA 3,24,113,224,170,104,145,224
117Ø J=CHANGE (IREC): $$=$TR$ (J+SGN(J)/2
                                            1610 DATA 138,200,208,240,162,0,138,16
): GOSUB 1460
1180 S$ (I) = "%": INP$ (51) = "
                                 ": INP$ (5
                                            1620 DATA 177, 212, 72, 133, 217, 169, 0, 133
7 - L E N (S S) = S S : J O L D = 5 4
                                            1630 DATA 219,160,7,10,38,219,6,217
1190 S$=STR$(DIV(IREC))
                                            1640 DATA 144,7,24,101,216,144,2,230
1200 J=60:GOSUB 1440
                                            1650 DATA 219, 136, 16, 239, 24, 101, 243, 13
1210 S$=STR$ (INCOME (IREC)): GINC=GINC+I
                                            3
NCOME (IREC)
                                            1660 DATA 218,165,219,101,244,133,219,
1220 J=71:GOSUB 1450
                                            164
1230 S$=STR$(YIELD(IREC))
                                            1670 DATA 215,177,218,168,177,224,72,2
1240 J=77:GOSUB 1440:INP$(80)="%"
                                            4
1250 PRINT #3; INP$: NEXT K
                                            1680 DATA 105,1,145,224,104,168,104,14
1260 PRINT #3:PRINT #3;"GRAND TOTAL SH
                                            5
     ": GSHR
ARES
                                            1690 DATA 230,232,228,242,144,192,36,2
127Ø S$=STR$(GCOS):GOSUB 143Ø:PRINT #3
                                            14
                       $";$$
"GRAND TOTAL COST
                                            1700 DATA 16,165,165,213,166,231,134,2
128Ø $$ = $TR$ (GVAL): GOSUB 143Ø: PRINT #3
                                            13
"GRAND TOTAL VALUE $"; S$
                                            1710 DATA 133,231,198,215,16,152,96
1290 S$=STR$(GINC):GOSUB 1430:PRINT #3
                                            1720 FOR I=1 TO 151
"GRAND TOTAL INCOME $": S$
                                            1730 READ X: A$(I) = CHR$(X): NEXT I
1300 GDEL=100* (GVAL-GCOS)/GCOS
                                            1740 RETURN
131Ø S$=STR$(GDEL):GOSUB 146Ø:PRINT #3
; "AVERAGE INCREASE "; S$; "%"
                                                            TYPO TABLE
1320 GYIE-100*GINC/GVAL
1330 S$=STR$ (GYIE): GOSUB 1460: PRINT #3
                                            Variable checksum = 1286082
                    "; $$; "%"
                                                                    Code
                                               Line num range
                                                                           Length
"AVERAGE YIELD
                                                          9 Ø
                                                                     XM
                                                                            446
1340 GYIE=100*GINC/GCOS
                                                10
                                                100
                                                          210
1350 S$=STR$(GYIE):GOSUB 1460:PRINT #3
                                                                     SX
                                                                            380
                     "; $$; "%"
                                                220
                                                          330
                                                                     YK
                                                                            327
:"INCOME/COST
1360 GYIE-GINC/12
                                                340
                                                          450
                                                                     GB
                                                                            439
1370 S$=STR$(GYIE):GOSUB 1430:PRINT #3
                                                460
                                                          5 7 Ø
                                                                     JW
                                                                            484
                                                580
                                                          690
                                                                     YA
                                                                            5 1 6
"INCOME PER MONTH $"; S$
                                                          810
                                                                     V T
                                                                            4 Ø 8
1380 GYIE=GINC/52
                                                700
139Ø S$=STR$(GYIE):GOSUB 143Ø:PRINT #3
                                                                            361
                                                820
                                                          930
                                                                     AH
                                                940
                                                          1050
                                                                     SH
                                                                            449
"INCOME PER WEEK
                     $":S$
                                                                         continued on next page
1400 GYIE=GINC/2080
```

```
1969
        -1170
                       SO
                               372
                                                 1560
                                                                  ADC
                                                                            (FR2), Y
1180
        - 1290
                       SI
                               459
                                                 1570 NADD
                                                                  TAX
1300
        -1410
                               457
                       ΧH
                                                 1580
                                                                  PLA
1420
        - 153 Ø
                       WB
                               423
                                                 159Ø
                                                                  STA
                                                                            (FR2), Y
1540
        - 165Ø
                       Z L
                               414
                                                 1600
                                                                  TXA
        — 174 Ø
1660
                       U D
                               262
                                                 1610
                                                                  INY
                                                 1620
                                                                  BNE
                                                                           SET1
                    Listing 2
                                                 1630
                                                       ,
1000
                * = $ 6 0 0
                                                 1640
                                                                  LDX
                                                                           #0
1818 ;
                                                 1650 ORDR
                                                                  TXA
1020 SAVMSC
                          $58
                                                 1660
                                                                  TAY
                          $ D 4
1030 FR0
                                                 1670
                =
                                                                  LDA
                                                                           (FRØ), Y
1040 FRE
                _
                          $ DA
                                                 1680
                                                                  PHA
1050 FR2
                          SEØ
                                                 1690
                                                                  STA
                                                                           FRØ+5
1060 FR1
                          $ E 6
                =
                                                 1700
                                                                  LDA
                                                                           #0
1070 CIX
                          $ F 2
                                                 1710
                                                                  STA
                                                                           FRE+1
1080 INBUFF
                          $ F 3
                                                 1720
                                                                 LDY
                                                                           #$07
1090
                                                 1730 SHFT
                                                                 ASL
                                                                           A
1100
     ; X=USR(1536, ADR(A$), N, L)
                                                 1740
                                                                  ROL
                                                                           FRE+1
1118
                                                 1750
                                                                  ASL
                                                                           FRØ+5
1120
     ; A$ - ENTRIES TO BE SORTED
                                                 1760
                                                                  BCC
                                                                           NEXB
                                                 1770 ;
1130
               NUMBER OF ENTRIES
               LENGTH OF ENTRIES
1140
        L
                                                 1780
                                                                 CLC
      ; X
                                                 1790
1150
               ADDRESS OF POINTER TABLE
                                                                  ADC
                                                                           F R Ø + 4
1160
                                                 1800
                                                                 BCC
                                                                           NEXB
1170
                PLA
                                                 1810
1180
                PLA
                                                 182 Ø
                                                                 INC
                                                                           FRE+1
1190
                STA
                          INBUFF+1
                                                 1830 NEXB
                                                                 DEY
1200
                PLA
                                                 1840
                                                                 BPL
                                                                           SHFT
1210
                STA
                          INBUFF
                                                 1850
1220
                PLA
                                                 186Ø
                                                                 CLC
1230
                PLA
                                                 187Ø
                                                                 ADC
                                                                           INBUFF
1240
                STA
                          CIX
                                                 1880
                                                                           FRE
                                                                 STA
1250
                PLA
                                                 1890
                                                                 LDA
                                                                           FRE+1
                                                 1900
1260
                PLA
                                                                 ADC
                                                                           INBUFF+1
1270
                STA
                          FRØ+4
                                                 1910
                                                                 STA
                                                                           FRE+1
                          FRØ+3
                                                 1920
1280
                STA
                                                                 LDY
                                                                           FRØ+3
1290
                DEC
                          FRØ+3
                                                 1930
                                                                 LDA
                                                                           (FRE),Y
1300
                LDX
                          SAVMSC+1
                                                 194Ø
                                                                 TAY
                                                 195Ø
1310
                DEX
                                                                 LDA
                                                                           (FR2), Y
1320
                STX
                          FRØ+1
                                                 1960
                                                                 PHA
1330
                DEX
                                                 1970
                                                                 CLC
1340
                STX
                                                 1980
                                                                 ADC
                          FR1+1
                                                                           #1
                                                 1990
1350
                DEX
                                                                 STA
                                                                           (FR2), Y
                STX
                          FR2+1
                                                 2000
1360
                                                                 PLA
1370
                LDY
                          #0
                                                 2010
                                                                 TAY
                STY
                          FRØ
                                                 2 8 2 8
1380
                                                                 PLA
1390
                STY
                          FR1
                                                 2030
                                                                 STA
                                                                           (FR1), Y
1400
                STY
                          FR2
                                                 2040
                                                                 INX
1410
                STY
                          FRØ+2
                                                 2 0 5 0
                                                                 CPX
                                                                           CIX
                                                 2060
1420 PASSO
                TYA
                                                                 BCC
                                                                           ORDR
1430
                STA
                                                 2070
                          (FRØ), Y
1440
                INY
                                                 2080
                                                                 BIT
                                                                           FRØ+2
1450
                BNE
                          PASSØ
                                                 2 0 9 0
                                                                 BPL
                                                                           PASS2
                                                 2100;
1460
1478
      PASS1
                CLC
                                                 2110
                                                                 LDA
                                                                           FRØ+1
1480
      PASS2
                ROR
                          FRØ+2
                                                 2120
                                                                 LDX
                                                                           FR1 + 1
1490
                LDY
                          #0
                                                 2130
                                                                 STX
                                                                           FRØ+1
1500
                TYA
                                                 2140
                                                                 STA
                                                                           FR1+1
1510 SET1
                PHA
                                                 2150
                                                                 DEC
                                                                           FRØ+3
1520
                BIT
                          FRØ+2
                                                 2160
                                                                 BPL
                                                                           PASS1
1530
                BPL
                          NADD
                                                 2170
                                                                 RTS
1540 ;
                                                 2180
                                                       ;
1550
                CLC
                                                 2190
                                                                 . END
```



he recent economic recession has brought home to the average person how important it is to be aware of personal finance. The issues of uncertain investment returns, inflation and unreasonable mortgage rates are complex, and most of us are not financial professionals with access to the tables and charts that can ease the pain of complicated mathematical calculations. If you're like me, you lapse into a funk when brought face to face with an algebraic equation involving "principal, interest and time."

Knowing that my Atari 800 would not be the least bit fazed by such a confrontation, I collected a series of financial equations, wrote a few subroutines, added a touch of color, and came up with the following menu-driven program. While it won't solve your financial dilemmas, it might make your struggles less burdensome.

#### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The program opens with an invitation to choose one of several options: "WHAT WILL MY INVESTMENT BE WORTH?"; "VALUE OF REGULAR SAVINGS"; "ANNUITY INCOME"; and so on. One menu choice leads the user to a

brief description of how each option can be used. For example, "DEVALUATION OF THE \$ BY INFLATION" not only determines the effect of inflation on your savings, it also can calculate the depreciation of a piece of property, such as the family car. By using this option in conjunction with "GROWTH RATE OF MONEY," you can obtain an accurate picture of the actual increase (or decrease) in the value of an investment over a given period of time.

The program is written in very basic BASIC. It is simply a series of subroutines tied together by a menu. The calculating routines (lines 100, 300, 500, 700, 900, and 1100) in the program can be changed to meet your specific requirements. Osborne/McGraw-Hill's *Some Common BASIC Programs* (Atari Edition) contains a number of programs you may find useful. TAB Books' The Most Popular Subroutines in BASIC is also crammed full of usable formulas.

#### TAKE APART

Lines 0-25: Give the program a title.

Lines 30–95: Menu information; requests user input and continued on next page

directs the program to the chosen menu option. The program error traps each INPUT line (see lines 95 and 120, for example).

Lines 100–195: This section does the work involved in the first menu choice. After requesting user input, it computes the figures you need (lines 155, 160 and 175) and prints the answer on the screen (lines 170 and 180).

Line 190: This subroutine (GOSUB 3000) asks the user to stay with this choice, ask for further directions, or return to the main menu. All of the routines are set up in virtually the same way.

Line 2000: This final menu selection (menu choice 7: line

85) provides you with details about how to use each option, and suggests further applications. If you don't want this section in your program, eliminate line 85, omit 2000 from line 95, and eliminate lines 2000 to 2285.

Lines 3000–3135: After each calculation, these two subroutines lead the user back into the program to continue with the function, get more information or return to the main menu. If you choose to eliminate the "FURTHER DETAIL" routine (lines 2000–2285), then lines 3010, 3030, 3110 and 3130 should be omitted and lines 3015, 3035 and 3135 changed.

#### Requires 16K RAM

```
REM *** MONEY MATTERS ****
2
  REM
      * BY WARWICK WAKEMAN
3 REM
          ANTIC MAGAZINE
          FEBUARY, 1984
4 REM *
5 REM *********
8 GRAPHICS 1+16: SETCOLOR 2,4,4
9 POSITION 6,5:? #6;"FINANCIAL"
10 POSITION 4,7:? #6; "CALCULATIONS"
15 POSITION 9,12:? #6;"BY"
20 POSITION 6,14:? #6;"WARWICK!"
25 FOR X=1 TO 75 STEP Ø. Ø5: NEXT X:?
30 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,4,4:? :? :?
35 PRINT "THIS PROGRAM WILL COMPUTE FI
NANCIAL"
40 PRINT "
             CALCULATIONS FOR INVESTMEN
T AND"
45 ? "
                   BORROWING"
     :? :? "CHOOSE:":?
50 ?
55 ? "
       1. WHAT WILL MY INVESTMENT BE W
0 R T H ?"
       2.
60 ? "
          VALUE OF REGULAR SAVINGS"
65 ? "
       3.
          ANNUITY OR PENSION INCOME"
7 0
  ?
          HOW MUCH DO I OWE ON MY LOAN
? "
75 ? "
       5.
          GROWTH OF INTEREST BEARING I
NVEST"
80 ? "
       6. DEVALUATION OF THE $ BY INFL
ATION"
85 ?
       7. FURTHER DETAIL ON 1
 7."
90 TRAP 50: INPUT X
95 ON X GOTO 100,300,500,700,900,1100,
2000
100 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2, 13, 6:? :?
105 ? "
          FUTURE WORTH OF AN INVESTMEN
17...
110 ?
115 ? "ORIGINAL INVESTMENT
120 TRAP 115: INPUT OA
125 ? "INTEREST RATE
                                        0/0
130 TRAP 125: INPUT I
135 ? "COMPOUNDING PERIODS PER YEAR
                                        #
140 TRAP 135: INPUT N
145 ? "TOTAL YEARS
";
```

```
150 TRAP 145: INPUT T
    I = I / N * \emptyset . \emptyset 1
155
160 \text{ FW} = 0 \text{ A} * (1+I) \wedge (\text{N} * \text{T})
165
     ? "FUTURE WORTH = $":
170
     ? INT(FW*100+0.6)*0.01
175
180
       "AT END OF "; T;" YEARS"
185
190
     GOSUB 3000
195
     GOTO 110
3 9 9
    GRAPHICS Ø: SETCOLOR 2,2,4:? :?
    ? "FUTURE VALUE OF REGULAR SAVINGS
310
315 ? "AMOUNT EACH DEPOSIT
                                           $ "
320 TRAP 315: INPUT D
325 ? "INTEREST RATE
                                          0/0 **
330 TRAP 325: INPUT I
335 ? "DEPOSITS PER YEAR
340 TRAP 335: INPUT N
345 ? "NUMBER OF YEARS TO SAVE
350 TRAP 345: INPUT T
355 I-I/N*Ø.01
360
    FV = D*((1+I)\wedge(N*T)-1)/I
365
370
     ?
      "FUTURE VALUE = $"
       INT (FV * 100+0.6) * 0.01
3 7 5
380
       "AT END OF "; T;" YEARS"
385
     ?
390 GOSUB 3000
395 GOTO 310
500 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,5,4:? :?
505 ? "AMOUNT REQ'D FOR ANNUITY OR PEN
SION
510 ?
515
    ? "AMOUNT OF PLANNED WITHDRAWALS $
520 TRAP 515: INPUT PW
525 ? "EXPECTED INTEREST RATE
530 TRAP 525: INPUT I
535 ? "PLANNED WITHDRAWALS PER YEAR
540 TRAP 535: INPUT N
```

```
# 1100 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,14,2:? :?
545 ? "NUMBER OF YEARS TO MATURITY
                                          1105 ?
H .
                                          1110 ? " $ DEVALUATION AT RATE OF INFL
550 TRAP 545: INPUT T
                                          ATION"
555 I = I * Ø . Ø 1
                                          1115 ?
560 AR-PW*N/I*(1-1/((1+I/N) \( N*T)))
                                                                                 $ "
                                          1120 ? "ORIGINAL VALUE
570 ? "MINIMUM INVESTMENT REQ'D = $";
                                          1125 TRAP 1120: INPUT OV
575 ? INT(100*AR+0.6)*0.01
                                                                                 0/0**
580 ? "FOR "; N*T;" WITHDRAWALS IN "; T
                                          1130 ? "INFLATION RATE
;" YEARS"
                                          1135 TRAP 1130: INPUT I
585 ?
                                                                                 #"
                                          1140 ? "YEARS
590 GOSUB 3000
595 GOTO 510
700 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,1,3:? :?
                                          1145 TRAP 1140: INPUT T
                                          1150 ?
             BALANCE OWING ON A LOAN"
                                          1155 DV-INT (100*0V*(1-I/100)\wedge T+0.6)*0.
710 ?
                                          01
715 ? "REGULAR PAYMENT
                                          1160 ? "DEVALUATION - S"; DV
                                          1165 ? "AT END OF "; T;"
720 TRAP 715: INPUT RP
                                                                    YEARS"
                                          1170 ? : ?
725 ? "ORIGINAL AMOUNT BORROWED
                                          1175 ? "FOR ADDITIONAL YEARS, HIT 1"
                                          1180 ? "TO CONTINUE PROGRAM, HIT 2"
730 TRAP 725: INPUT P
                                          1185 TRAP 1175: INPUT X
735 ? "NUMBER OF PAYMENTS PER YEAR
                                          1190 IF X-1 THEN 1210
                                          1195 IF X-2 THEN GOSUB 3000
740 TRAP 735: INPUT N
                                          1200 GOTO 1120
745 ? "ANNUAL INTEREST RATE
                                          1205 ? :?
                                          1210 ? "ENTER NUMBER OF ADDITIONAL YEA
750 TRAP 745: INPUT I
                                          RS - ":
755 ? "TOTAL NUMBER OF PAYMENTS MADE #
                                          1215 TRAP 1210: INPUT N
                                          1220 ? "ENTER INFLATION RATE FOR ADDIT
760 TRAP 755: INPUT T
                                          IONAL YEARS - %";
765 I-I/100
                                          1225 TRAP 1220: INPUT I
770 J-I/N
                                          1230 DV=INT(100*DV*(1-I/100) \N+0.6) * 0.
775 B0=P*(1+J)\wedge T-RP*((1+J)\wedge T-(1+J))/J-
                                          01
(1*RP)
                                          1235 LET T=T+N
780 ?
                                          1240 ? :?
785 ? "BALANCE OWING - S";
                                          1245 ? "DEVALUATION OF $"; OV; " = [8"; DV
790 ? INT(BO*100+0.6)*0.01
                                          1250 ? "AT END OF "; T; " YEARS"
795 ? "AFTER ";T;" PAYMENTS
                                          1255 ?
800
                                          1260 GOTO 1175
895 GOSUB 3000
                                          2000 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2, 10, 1:? :?
810 GOTO 710
                                          2005 ? " THIS PART OF THE PROGRAM WIL
900 GRAPHICS 0: SETCOLOR 2,3,2:? :?
                                                     GIVE FURTHER DETAILS ON THE
905 ? "
             GROWTH OF MONEY
                                          VARIOUS
                                                     CALCULATIONS":? :?
910 ?
                                          2010 ? "CHOOSE:"
915 ?
                                          2015 ? " 1. WHAT WILL MY INVESTMENT BE
920 ? "INITIAL AMOUNT
                                           WORTH?"
925 TRAP 920: INPUT P
                                          2020 ? " 2. VALUE OF REGULAR SAVINGS"
930 ? "INTEREST RATE
                                          2025 ? " 3. ANNUITY OR PENSION INCOME"
935 TRAP 930: INPUT R
                                          2030 ? " 4. HOW MUCH DO I OWE ON MY LO
940 LET N=1
                                          AN?"
945 LET A-P*(1+R/100) \N
                                          2035 ? " 5. GROWTH OF INTEREST BEARING
950 ?
                                           INVEST"
955 ? "YEAR
               = #":N
                                          2040 ? " 6. DEVALUATION OF THE $ BY IN
960 ?
                                          FLATION"
965 ? "AMOUNT = $"; A
                                          2045 ? " 7. BACK TO MAIN MENU"
970 LET N=N+1
                                          2050 TRAP 2005: INPUT Z
975 ?
                                          2055 ON Z GOTO 2100,2140,2170,2205,223
980 ? "FOR ADDITIONAL YEARS, HIT 1"
                                          5,2260,30
985 ? "TO CONTINUE PROGRAM, HIT 2"
                                          2100 GRAPHICS 0: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,13,
990 TRAP 980: INPUT X
                                          6
995 IF X-1 THEN 945
1000 IF X-2 THEN GOSUB 3000
                                                                        continued on page 41
1005 GOTO 915
```

"Exodus: Ultima III, with a superior plot to match its superior gaming system, is a great game . . . it sets new standards for fantasy gaming state of the art."

Softline, November/December 1983

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LOUE

```
2105 ? :? "
               FUTURE WORTH OF
STMENT":?
2110? "This function will compute th
e worth of an investment at a specifie
d futuretime. The original investmen";
2115 ? "t can be asavings account, a t
erm deposit, bondsor a retirement fund
2120 ? :? " It may also be used to est
imate the future value of an antique
or a piece of real estate. ";
2125 ? " Just enter what you
                              estimate
the appreciation rate is in place of
the INTEREST RATE."
2130 GOSUB 3100
2135 GOTO 100
2140 GRAPHICS 0: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,2,4
:? :?
2145 ? :? "
              FUTURE VALUE OF REGULAR
SAVINGS
2150? "This function will compute the
future value of regular equal amounts
 deposited in an interest ";
2155 ? "bearing investment such as a
savings account, insurance
                            policy or
retirement savings plan."
2160 GOSUB 3100
2165 GOTO 300
2170 GRAPHICS 0: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,5,4
:? :?
2175 ? :? " MINIMUM ANNUITY INVESTMENT
REQUIRED"
2180? "This function will compute the
 amount required to provide regular in
        over a specified period of";
c 0 m e
2185 ? " time such
                    as pension payment
                    used to determine
s. It can also be
the amount required to provide":
2190 ? "living expenses while attendi
ng college or university."
2195 GOSUB 3100
2200 GOTO 500
2205 GRAPHICS 0: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,1,3
:? :?
               BALANCE REMAINING ON A
2210 ? :? "
LOAN"
2215 ? "This function will compute the
 balanceowing on a loan after a specif
ied number of payments such as a";
2220 ? "bank loan or a mortgage."
2225 GOSUB 3100
2230 GOTO 700
2235 GRAPHICS Ø: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,3,2
:? :?
2240 ? :? "
               GROWTH RATE OF MONEY
2245 ? "This function will show how mo
        grows year by year when placed
        interest bearing investment."
 in an
2250 GOSUB 3100
2255 GOTO 900
2260 GRAPHICS 0: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 2,14,
```

| 2 | 2  | 6   | 5 |   | ? |   | :   | ? |   | ••  |   |   | \$  |   | D | E | ۷ | A  | L | U | A   | Ţ | 1 | 0 | N | W | A | T  | 7 | R | A  | T | E |     | 0 | F |   |
|---|----|-----|---|---|---|---|-----|---|---|-----|---|---|-----|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|----|---|---|-----|---|---|---|
| I | N  | F   | L | A | Ī | 1 | 0   | N | ١ |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   | 2  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     | S |   | f   | u | n | C | ŧ | i  | 0 | n |     | w | i | ١ | ١ |   | C | 0  | m | p | u  | ŧ | 8 |     | t | h | 8 |
|   | 6  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| t |    | C   | 3 | n |   |   |     | 2 | Ï | S   | 0 |   | b   | 8 |   | u | s | 8  | d |   | t   | 0 |   | C | a | I | C | u  | ŀ | a | ţ  | 0 |   | • • | : |   |   |
|   | 2  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   | m  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   | t  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   | 2  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   | 7  | 7 | ī |     |   |   |   |
|   | 2  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | Ø   | Ø |   | ? |   | :   | ? |   | :   | ? |   | * * | C | H | 0 | 0 | S  | E | : | • • |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | Ø   | 5 |   | ? |   | "   | 1 |   |     | C | 0 | N   | T | Ι | N | U | E  |   | W | I   | T | H |   | T | Н | Ι | S  |   | F | U  | N | C | T   | Ι | 0 | N |
| ? |    |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | 1   | Ø |   | ? |   | ,,  | 2 |   |     | F | U | R   | T | H | E | R |    | D | A | Ţ   | A |   | 0 | N |   | C | A  | L | C | U  | L | A | T   | I | 0 | N |
| S | ?  | • • |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | 1   | 5 |   | ? |   | **  | 3 |   |     | B | A | C   | K |   | T | 0 |    | M | A | I   | N |   | M | E | N | U | ?  |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | 2   | Ø |   | T | R | A   | P |   | 3   | Ø | Ø | Ø   | : | I | N | P | U  | T |   | Y   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | ø  | 2   | 5 |   | Ι | F |     | Y | = | 1   |   | T | H   | E | N |   | R | Ε  | T | U | R   | N |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | 3   | Ø |   | Ι | F |     | Y | = | 2   |   | T | H   | E | N |   | 2 | Ø  | Ø | Ø |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | Ø  | 3   | 5 |   | Ι | F |     | Y | = | 3   |   | T | H   | E | N |   | 3 | Ø  |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | Ø   | Ø |   | ? |   | :   | ? |   | * * | C | H | 0   | 0 | S | E | : | ** |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | Ø   | 5 |   |   |   |     | 1 |   |     | T | 0 |     | U | S | E |   | T  | H | Ι | S   |   | F | U | N | C | T | I  | 0 | N | •• |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | 1   | Ø |   | ? |   | * * | 2 |   |     | F | U | R   | T | H | Ε | R |    | D | A | T   | A |   | 0 | N |   | C | A  | L | C | U  | L | A | T   | Ι | 0 | N |
| S | ,, |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | 1   | 5 |   | ? |   | **  | 3 |   |     | B | A | C   | K |   | T | 0 |    | M | A | Ι   | N |   | M | E | N | U | ** |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | 2   | Ø |   | T | R | A   | P |   | 3   | Ø | 4 | Ø   | : | I | N | P | U  | T |   | A   |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | 2   | 5 |   | Ι | F |     | A | = | 1   |   | T | H   | E | N |   | R | E  | T | U | R   | N |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   | 1  |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   | T |     |   |   |   |   |    |   | Ø |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
| 3 | 1  | 3   | 5 |   | Ι | F |     | A | _ | 3   |   | T | H   | E | N |   | 3 | Ø  |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   |    |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |
|   |    |     |   |   |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |   |   |   |    |   |   |    |   |   |     |   |   |   |

#### TYPO TABLE

| ı | a | r i | a   | b | 1 | 8 |   | C | h | θ | C | k | S | u m | = | 219221 |      |     |   |   |
|---|---|-----|-----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|--------|------|-----|---|---|
|   |   | -1  | . i | n | 0 |   | n | u | m |   | ľ | a | n | g e |   | Code   | Leng | g t | h |   |
|   |   | 1   |     |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | Ø |   |     |   | U O    | 44   | 4   |   |   |
|   |   | 3   | 5   |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 9 | Ø |   |     |   | PH     | 44   | 6   |   |   |
|   |   | ç   | 5   |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 5 | Ø |     |   | NB     | 38   | 2   |   |   |
|   |   | 1   | 5   | 5 |   |   |   |   |   |   | 3 | 1 | Ø |     |   | UΖ     | 26   | 2   |   |   |
|   |   | 3   | 1   | 5 |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 7 | Ø |     |   | P B    | 313  | 3   |   |   |
|   |   | 3   | 3 7 | 5 |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 5 | 3 | Ø |     |   | BY     | 30   | 3   |   |   |
|   |   | 5   | i 3 | 5 |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 5 | 9 | Ø |     |   | PP     | 3 2  | 7   |   |   |
|   |   | Ę   | 9   | 5 |   |   |   |   | - |   | 7 | 5 | Ø |     |   | PA     | 329  | 9   |   |   |
|   |   | 7   | 7 5 | 5 |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 8 | 1 | Ø |     |   | ΙX     | 27   | В   |   |   |
|   |   | 9   | 9 0 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 9 | 5 | 5 |     |   | WC     | 25   | 6   |   |   |
|   |   | ç   | 9 6 | Ø |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 1 | Ø | 5   |   | H F    | 24   | 7   |   |   |
|   |   | 1   | 1   | 1 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 1 | 6 | 5   |   | JΤ     | 33   | 2   |   |   |
|   |   | 1   | 1   | 7 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5   |   | JY     | 29   | 7   |   |   |
|   |   | 1   | 2   | 3 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | Ø | 2 | Ø   |   | Y B    | 401  | 6   |   |   |
|   |   | - 2 | 2 0 | 2 | 5 |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5   |   | F D    | 56   | 3   |   |   |
|   |   | - 2 | 2 1 | 2 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | 1 | 5 | 5   |   | EM     | 5 2  | В   |   |   |
|   |   | - 2 | 2 1 | 6 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | 2 | 1 | Ø   |   | H O    | 53   | 2   |   |   |
|   |   | 2   | 2 2 | 1 | 5 |   |   |   | _ |   | 2 | 2 | 7 | Ø   |   | ΤZ     | 6 Ø  | 9   |   |   |
|   |   | 2   | 2 2 | 7 | 5 |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 1 | Ø | Ø   |   | A C    | 36   |     |   |   |
|   |   | - 3 | 3 1 | 0 | 5 |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 1 | 3 | 5   |   | H M    | 17   | 9   |   | A |

2:? :?

## Type your program once

by BILL WILKINSON

YPO is designed to help you find the typing errors you make when entering the BASIC programs published in ANTIC. TYPO generates a table of values called a "Typo Table," which includes a variable checksum, line-number ranges, codes and lengths. Compare your table with the appropriate Typo Table in ANTIC. (A different table accompanies each BASIC listing.) If the two are not identical, you've probably made a "typo" that needs to be corrected.

#### **HOW TO USE TYPO**

These instructions apply when you use TYPO to test other programs. See the next section for instructions on how to use TYPO to check itself.

- 1. Enter the program listing exactly as shown.
- 2. LIST this program to disk (LIST "D:TYPO.LST") or cassette (via LIST "C:"). When using a cassette, reserve an entire blank cassette for TYPO.

"TYPO" first appeared in Volume 1, Number 3 of ANTIC, and was reprinted in Volume 2, Number 1. Now that our listings are set in a monospaced font, we reprint it here as a service to our many new readers. Bill Wilkinson, Vice-President and Technical Director of Optimized Systems Software, Inc., was one of the original designers of Atari BASIC.—ANTIC ED

- 3. Type NEW to clear memory.
- 4. Type in a program from ANTIC.
- 5. LIST this program to disk (LIST "D:NAME") or cassette (LIST"C:"). Type NEW and reenter the program (ENTER "D:NAME" or ENTER "C:").
- 6. Append the TYPO program onto the end of the program from the disk (ENTER "D:TYPO.LST") or cassette (ENTER "C:").
- 7. Type GOTO 32000. You will be prompted for "File for output." Type [S] [RETURN] for screen output or [P] [RETURN] to send output to the printer. Your Typo Table will then be printed to the appropriate device. Compare your table with the one published with the BASIC listing. If they agree, you're finished and the program should run.
- 8. If any values in the two tables do not agree, note the variable-checksum value and keep it handy.
- 9. Examine the lines which have codes and/or lengths that disagree. Correct any errors.
- 10. If and only if the variable checksum you noted agrees with the one in the magazine, return to Step 7 (above) and try again.
- 11. If the variable checksums do not agree, you *must* go to Step 5 (above) and perform the listing and reentering ritual! You may skip Step 6, however, since (presumably) you have already merged the two programs with LIST and ENTER.

#### HOW TO USE TYPO ON ITSELF

- 1. Follow Steps 1-3 above.
- 2. Load the saved TYPO (ENTER "D:TYPO.LST" or ENTER "C:").
- 3. Change 32000 to 32500 in lines 32180 and 32200. This alteration applies *only* when you use TYPO to check itself.
  - 4. Go to Step 7 (above).

## WHAT TYPO IS TELLING YOU

This program is fussy! It counts every period, comma, and space. It also cares about the order in which you type in program lines! The order in which variable names are stored depends on the order in which the lines were typed. If this order is altered, the values of the tokens and subsequent checksums will also be changed.

The variable checksum is used to correct for this by producing a checksum that depends on the order in which variables are stored. If your checksum doesn't agree, you have either entered lines in the wrong order or misspelled a variable name. In either case, you *must* correct your error(s) and then go through the LIST/NEW/ENTER sequence to ensure that the variables are in the correct order.

The length shown is the number of bytes in the tokenized program that are

encountered by TYPO within the indicated line-number range. The two-letter code is essentially a checksum of "length" bytes within that same range. If the length is correct but the code is wrong, you may have made a spelling or punctuation error. Be careful: since all keywords and operators (including two-

character operators such as "<>") are tokenized as one byte, the length may stay the same even though you type SET-COLOR for CLR. You may use abbreviations for keywords (see "Appendix A" of the BASIC Reference Manual) as long as the LISTed result conforms to the magazine listing.

If the length bytes disagree, you have added or deleted characters. If nothing obvious shows, pay special attention to characters in quoted strings and/or REM statements. It is easy to omit a space or punctuation in a REMark, thinking that "REMs don't matter." But to TYPO, they do.

32000 REM Type Your Program Once -- "T Y P 0" 32100 CLR :DIM Q\$(20):QF=7:CLOSE #QF:? "File for output"; 32110 INPUT Q\$:OPEN #QF, 12, 0, Q\$:QREM=0 32130 QCNT=1:FOR QADDR=PEEK(130)+256\*P EEK(131) TO PEEK(132)+256\*PEEK(133)-1 32140 OSUM=QSUM+PEEK(QADDR)\*QCNT:QCNT= OCNT+1:NEXT QADDR 32150 ? #QF;"Variable checksum = ";QSU M:? #0F 3216Ø QADDR=PEEK(136)+256\*PEEK(137):? Line num range Code Length #0F:" 32170 OLINE=PEEK (QADDR) + 256 \* PEEK (QADDR 32180 IF OLINE>=32000 THEN END 3219Ø QLEN-Ø:QSUM-QLEN:QCNT-QLEN:? #QF "; OLINE, "- "; 32200 IF NOT (QCNT<12 AND QLEN<500 AN

3 2 2 2 Ø QLEN=QLEN+PEEK (QADDR+2):QCNT=QCNT+1
3 2 2 3 Ø IF PEEK (QADDR+4)=Ø AND QREM THEN QADDR=QADDR+PEEK (QADDR+2):GOTO 3 2 2 6 Ø 3 2 2 4 Ø FOR QADDR=QADDR TO QADDR+PEEK (QADDR+2)-1
3 2 2 5 Ø QSUM-QSUM+PEEK (QADDR):NEXT QADDR 3 2 2 6 Ø Q\$-STR\$ (QLINE):QLINE-PEEK (QADDR)+2 5 6 \* PEEK (QADDR+1):GOTO 3 2 2 Ø Ø 3 2 2 7 Ø QSUM-QSUM-6 7 6 \* INT (QSUM/6 7 6):QCNT-INT (QSUM/2 6) 3 2 2 8 Ø ? #QF;Q\$,CHR\$ (65+QCNT);CHR\$ (65+QSUM-2 6 \* QCNT);";QLEN 3 2 2 9 Ø GOTO 3 2 1 8 Ø

#### TYPO TABLE

Variable checksum = 50796 Line num range Code Length 32000 - 32200 QD 518 32220 - 32290 WQ 310

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A

## ILLUSTRATION: BILL BOYER

# ATARI

## The wild world of conflict simulation

by KARL WIEGERS

t's no secret that the microcomputer has revolutionized the games people play. Game designers moved quickly from the prototypical Pong to the enormous selection of computer games available today, and as a result the TV screen has replaced many game boards. Most of the computer games that are currently available are arcade-style maze or shoot-'em-up games, but an increasing number of "adventure" games are being introduced. I use this term to include science fiction, fantasy and conflict-simulation games (the polite term for war games). War games have been used for generations by armies to simulate impending battles and to help formulate strategies and tactics.

#### WHAT IS A WAR GAME?

The war gamer has several hundred board games from which to choose, and they cover almost every conceivable conflict, both real and hypothetical, from ancient times to the far future. These games consist of four main features: a map that represents the battle area, cardboard counters or miniature figures that represent the opposing forces, dice and combat-results tables that are used to determine the outcome of battles, and

Karl E. Wiegers, Ph.D., is a research chemist for Eastman Kodak and an Atari hobbyist. He writes for a number of computer publications. a hefty book of rules. These games can be classified according to several schemes: the scale of combat, the historical period involved, or the type of combat simulated (naval, armored, air, etc.)

### GAME-DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

A war-game designer faces a continual struggle between the requirements of realism and playability. For example, a detailed board game of tactical air-to-air combat can involve many minutes of planning and execution by the players, even though a single game-turn might represent only a few seconds of real time. On the other hand, an Atari owner can take joystick in hand and play a real-time simulation of World War II fighter combat. The graphics and immediate response that a computer can provide offer a much better three-dimensional "feel" than is ever possible with a board game,

Air combat games for the Atari include Spitfire Ace, Wingman, and Mig Alley Ace (all MP). The latter two feature split screens in a two-player mode. The biplanes of World War I reappear in Blue Max (S), which features 3-D diagonal scrolling, Flying Ace (MG), and Eagles (SSI). And these games will soon be joined by Fighter Command (SSI), a very advanced reenactment of the Battle of Britain.

Similar features are included in games involving submarine combat, such as Sea

Dragon (AI) and Submarine Commander (T). Sea Dragon scrolls through 24 sequential map screens to provide a vivid representation of undersea warfare. Submarine Commander allows you to evade depth charges and pursue enemy merchant ships.

Computerized combat games are more realistic than board games for other reasons as well. Combat units in most war games have a number of basicstrength values that represent capabilities for attack, defense, and overall morale. But board games usually don't account for smaller variations in the performance of a given unit under different sets of circumstances. In contrast, when you play The Battle of Shiloh (SSI) on your Atari, you can assign one of four different levels of risk (for both attack and defense) to each of your units. This greatly broadens the range of potential outcomes in each combat action.

A computer is also an ideal tool for introducing the "fog of war" into a war game. This term refers to the element of uncertainty and randomness that is a constant aspect of real combat and that adds spice and realism to a simulation. In North Atlantic Convoy Raider (MG) and Midway Campaign (MG), the computer controls enemy naval units which you must seek out and destroy while avoiding your own destruction. The computer limits the amount of informa-

continued on page 46



tion that you're able to obtain about its moves. This provides a high level of suspense, as well as an element of variation from game to game. In contrast, the randomizing techniques used in board games are relatively primitive: You roll dice to determine search results, invert units on the game board to mask their identities (but not their presence) from your opponent, and sometimes enlist a third person to serve as a referee while you and your antagonist sit in separate rooms.

A computer war-game designer must also take into account the concept of play balance; in other words, each player must have a chance to win the game, or it will soon lose its appeal. As Chris Crawford (the guru of game design at Atari) points out, the illusion of winnability must be present.

The designers of computer war games have solved this problem by incorporating randomizing techniques into the games and by providing for complex performance capabilities on the part of tactical units. These elements make for good balance in computer-war simulations. In the world of computer war games, the results at Waterloo or Gettysburg are not inevitable; there is still hope for the underdog. In addition, the different levels of difficulty offered by such games allow players of different abilities to introduce handicaps, and thus to maintain play balance.

#### THE PRO'S AND CONS OF THE COMPUTER

Most board games use a combat-results table (CRT) to resolve the vagaries of combat. The CRT shows the probabilities of various outcomes when a certain attack strength is matched against a particular defense under given conditions. A roll of the dice then selects one of these possible results. But a computer can provide a much more detailed tabulation of combat results than is possible with the tables used in board games.

In addition, the computational speed of the computer eliminates a great deal of the tedium from the unfolding of a war game. In Eastern Front 1941 (APX), the Atari determines the results of many

individual battles in a matter of seconds. Doing the same calculations by hand could easily involve thirty minutes of examining unit strengths, cross-referencing numbers in tables, and rolling dice. Even with the aid of the computer, war games tend to take much longer to play than either the designers or the players expected. However, use of the computer allows players to store their game and take a temporary leave of absence from the front.

In large board games, it often becomes tedious and time-consuming to monitor the status of your combat units. But many of the computer games mentioned here can instantly provide you with the tables that indicate the current status of your forces. The computer also eliminates the shuffling of paper that often plagues board games. In addition, the computer can monitor the supply status of each unit, as in games such as Tigers in the Snow (SSI). This adds dramatically to the realism and complexity of the simulation with virtually no sacrifice in playability.

One area in which board games are still far superior to computer war games is the map. Even the most outstanding applications of Atari graphics are hardpressed to match the detailed and often beautiful maps used in many board games. Most of the maps used in board games feature a hexagonal grid that is superimposed upon the terrain to regulate movement and combat. Although, in principle, the computer can free you from such arbitrary restrictions, in fact such freedom is not yet found in many games. Even the sophisticated Eastern Front 1941 reverts to a mere modification of the primitive (by board game standards) use of squares to regulate the positioning of units. Unfortunately, there is only so much detail that can be placed into 48K of memory.

With a board game, it is possible to see all portions of a map (even a large map) at once, and to easily assess the overall situation. This is not possible with the small display area and the resolution offered by a TV screen. One way that game designers alleviate this problem is to create maps that can be scrolled, so that the TV screen is simply a window into a much larger playing area. Superb examples of map scrolling

are found in Eastern Front 1941 and Legionnaire (MG), which matches ten of Caesar's fearsome legions against a computer-controlled army of barbarians.

Another solution is to provide a map and counters along with the computer game, as is done in Tanktics (MG) and Dnieper River Line (MG), two armoredcombat games set in World War II.

Computer graphics simply cannot compete with paper and artwork when it comes to stationary displays. On the other hand, computer game maps can be altered simply by switching to a new character set of map symbols. In this way, Eastern Front 1941 shows the effects of the changing seasons with vivid visual displays that cannot be duplicated by the hardcopy maps of board games.

#### PICK A WAR, ANY WAR

Certain subjects are perennial favorites with war gamers, and the selection of games for the Atari reflects that fact. The Russian front in World War II, for example, holds a particular fascination, and games for the Atari are available on several levels: the strategic (Eastern Front 1941), the operational (Dnieper River Line), and the tactical (Tanktics). Another 1941-Russian-front simulation, Panzers East (MG), is due to be released soon.

Armored combat is always popular, as is witnessed by Tanktics, the upcoming tactical tank-to-tank World War II game T.A.C. (MG), and Armor Assult (E), which covers hypothetical tank combat in the near future. Close Assult (MG) simulates infantry combat in World War II on the tactical level. Another game on this subject, Computer Ambush (SSI), is scheduled for release soon. In this tactical-level game, you'll be able to equip soldiers with weapons and combat charcteristics of your own choosing.

A number of other significant World War II battles have captured the interest of computer gamers. These include the North African encounters of Rommel and Montgomery (Knights of the Dessert-SSI), the Battle of the Bulge (Tigers in the Snow), and the gigantic D-Day invasion (Battle for Normandy-SSI).

Dozens of board games can be found on the American Civil War, but only the Battle of Shiloh appears to have been covered so far for the Atari. Both The Battle of Shiloh and Shiloh 1862 (DY) deal with this critical battle in Tennessee. In Shiloh 1862, you direct Union soldiers

and artillery against Confederate forces under General Atari.

An assortment of other wars from mankind's past and future can be re-

fought or foreshadowed on your Atari. Legionnaire, for example, brings the campaigns of Caesar to your home computer. The Napoleonic wars are always popular; among the offerings in this genre are Paris in Danger (MG), Leipzig 1813 (DY) and Waterloo 1815 (DY). The upcoming Broadsides (SSI) is a game of naval combat from the Age of Sail; it features both arcade-style action and authentic simulations that allow you to make the kind of decisions that real sea captains once made. The Vietnam War is reenacted in V.C. (MG). You command air cavalry and field artillery units in a tactical simulation of the controversial war that so intimately engaged friend and foe, soldier and civilian.

| ERA          | TITLE                        | PUB. | SCALE              | TYPE     |
|--------------|------------------------------|------|--------------------|----------|
| Ancient      | Legionnaire                  | MG   | Operational        | Land     |
| Napoleonic   | Paris in Danger              | MG   | Strategic/Tactical | Land     |
| Napoleonic   | Leipzig 1813                 | DY   | Operational        | Land     |
| Napoleonic   | Waterloo 1815                | DY   | Operational        | Land     |
| 18th Cent.   | Broadsides                   | SSI  | Tactical           | Sea      |
| Civil War    | The Battle of Shiloh         | SSI  | Operational        | Land     |
| Civil War    | Shiloh 1862                  | DY   | Operational        | Land     |
| World War I  | Blue Max                     | S    | Tactical           | Air      |
| World War I  | Flying Ace                   | MG   | Tactical           | Air .    |
| World War I  | Eagles                       | SSI  | Tactical           | Air      |
| World War II | Hellcat Ace                  | MP   | Tactical           | Air      |
| World War II | Spitfire Ace                 | MP   | Tactical           | Air      |
| World War II | Fighter Commander            | SSI  | Strategic          | Air .    |
| World War II | Submarine Commander          | T    | Tactical           | Sea      |
| World War II | Fathom's 40                  | DS   | Tactical           | Sea      |
| World War II | North Atlantic Convoy Raider | MG   | Operational        | Sea      |
| World War II | Midway Campaign              | MG   | Operational        | Sea      |
| World War II | Tanktics                     | MG   | Tactical           | Armor    |
| World War II | Dneiper River Line           | MG   | Operational        | Armor    |
| World War II | T.A.C.                       | MG   | Tactical           | Armor    |
| World War II | Eastern Front 1941           | APX  | Strategic          | Land     |
| World War II | Panzers East                 | MG   | Strategic          | Land     |
| World War II | Knights of the Desert        | SSI  | Operational        | Land     |
| World War II | Tigers in the Snow           | SSI  | Operational        | Land     |
| World War II | Battle for Normandy          | SSI  | Operational        | Land     |
| World War II | Close Assault                | MG   | Tactical           | Land     |
| World War II | Computer Ambush              | SSI  | Tactical           | Land     |
| World War II | Operation Whirlwind          | В    | Tactical           | Land     |
| Korean War   | MIG Alley Ace                | MP   | Tactical           | Air      |
| Vietnam War  | V.C.                         | MG   | Tactical           | Land     |
| Modern       | Wingman                      | MP   | Tactical           | Air      |
| Hypothetical | B-1 Nuclear Bomber           | MG   | Strategic          | Air      |
| Hypothetical | COMMBAT                      | AI   | Tactical           | Armor    |
| Hypothetical | Sea Dragon                   | AI   | Tactical           | Sea      |
| Hypothetical | Armor Assault                | E    | Tactical           | Armor    |
| Hypothetical | War                          | AI   | Operational        | Air/Land |
| Hypothetical | Nukewar                      | MG   | Strategic          | All      |
| Hypothetical | NATO Commander               | MP   | Strategic          | Land     |
| Hypothetical | Germany 1985                 | SSI  | Strategic          | Land     |

#### Game publishers shown by their initials are:

|     | = Adventure International |           | = Microcomputer Games         |
|-----|---------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|
| APX | = Atari Program Exchange  | MP        | = MicroProse Software         |
| В   | = Broderbund Software     | S         | = Synapse Software            |
| DS  | = Datasoft                | SSI       | = Strategic Simulations, Inc. |
| DY  | = Dynacomp                | T. Albara | = Thorn E.M.I.                |
|     | = Epyx                    |           |                               |

#### HYPOTHETICAL WAR

In addition to simulations of real wars, there are always hypothetical scenarios to consider, as if there hasn't been enough real conflict in human history to simulate. You're able to anticipate the outcome of a collision of the superpowers in Germany 1985 (SSI). Similarly, NATO Commander (MP) is a real-time strategic simulation of a hypothetical Warsaw Pact invasion of Western Europe.

I mentioned earlier that the category of adventure games also includes science fiction and fantasy games. Several nearfuture hypothetical scenarios, such as the strategic-level game Nukewar (MG), bridge the gap between the recreation of past conflicts and the realm of pure conjecture.

#### CONCLUSION

As you can see, adapting detailed conflict-simulation games to a microcomputer is not easy. Many problems involving realism and playability must be resolved. Even so, a widening variety of these games is available for the Atari. The computer can greatly increase ease of play in such games by handling monotonous details, but even Atari graphics pale in comparison with those of a well-executed board game. Realtime simulations and 3-D games, especially those involving air and sea combat, are often much more fun on the computer, though. In fact, I think I'll go shot down some Zeroes now! Where's my flack jacket?



## Autoboot with a ghost at the keyboard

by CRAIG CHAMBERLAIN

icture the following. Seated at your Atari computer, you insert the BASIC cartridge and turn the system on. The normal sequence of events ensues, whereupon the familiar prompt "READY" appears on the screen. Suddenly, you hear the keyboard clicking, as if invisible fingers were pressing the keys, and the words "OR NOT, HERE I COME!" appear. More clicking follows, and you see direct-mode commands to BASIC being typed in and immediately executed. You may even find that your disk drive or cassette machine has been activated to LOAD or RUN files! Is it a ghost? No, it's just Fast Fingers (FF), a revolutionary new concept in autoboot programs for the Atari.

#### ABOUT AUTOBOOT **PROGRAMS**

An autoboot program is one that is automatically executed when the computer is powered on. If you use DOS 2.0S in a disk-based system, you're probably aware that DOS looks for a program named AUTORUN.SYS upon booting. If AUTORUN.SYS exists on the disk, DOS will attempt to load and run it as a machine-language program before transferring control to a cartridge or loading DUP.SYS. If your system is cassette-based, you may have run autoboot programs by pressing and holding [START] as you turn on the computer.

The most common type of AUTO-RUN.SYS program, available as a onesector file on the DOS 2.0S Master Disk, loads the RS-232 handler from the 850 interface if it's turned on. Another common type executes a line of BASIC commands by taking temporary control of the screen editor. Fast Fingers works by taking control of the keyboard instead, and lets you preprogram an entire sequence of keyboard entries (including cursor and screen editor controls and the [RETURN] key) to be executed as the autoboot file. The autoboot file can be executed with any language, including PILOT and the Assembler Editor cartridge, or even in MEMO PAD mode!

#### **HOW TO USE FAST FINGERS**

Type in the Fast Fingers listing below very carefully. Use TYPO to check for typing accuracy, and SAVE a copy and put it away for safekeeping before you RUN the program.

Now RUN it. The first prompt requests that you enter an input-device specification. For now, enter K for keyboard (a colon isn't necessary since there is no filename in this case). Next, the screen clears and the READY prompt appears. Don't be fooled — the program is still running. At this point, every keystroke that produces a legal ATASCII character is being recorded.

If you are using cassette, type CLOAD [RETURN] [RETURN] RUN [RE-TURN]. If you're using disk, type RUN "D:GAME [RETURN]. (Don't type a period after [RETURN], though.) You may replace GAME with the name of any BASIC tokenized file you wish to run.

Now both cassette and disk users should hold down [CTRL] and press [3]. This generates an end-of-file code, and terminates your input. A message is now printed that tells you how many keystrokes were recorded.

The next prompt asks whether you're using cassette or disk. Respond with C or D. If you're using disk, make sure the disk to which AUTORUN.SYS is to be written is in the drive. Next, both cassette and disk users should press [RETURN].

One of FF's special features is that it lets disk users append their AUTORUN. SYS file to one that already exists (e.g., the standard type that loads the RS-232 handler). If an AUTORUN.SYS file is present on the disk when you press [RETURN] (after the most-recentlydescribed prompt), you'll see the prompt "APPEND?" Responding to this with Y appends your file to the end of the previously existing one. A possible application for this is loading the RS-232 handler and then automatically loading and running a terminal program. You could even have FF set your terminal configuration and dial a number for you!

The next two prompts ask for the load and patch addresses. Press [RETURN] for now to use the default parameters. These will be discussed more fully later in this article.

The last prompt asks for a speed value between one and nine. The fastest speed, One, means that keystrokes will be typed in at a maximum rate of sixty per second at boot time. Speed Nine types one key continued on next page

every four seconds. Press [RETURN] for the default speed of Three.

After you press [RETURN] for the speed prompt, the program will write the boot file. Cassette users should make sure that you've depressed the RECORD and PLAY buttons on your recorder; when the computer beeps twice, press [RETURN]. When this is finished, the "real" READY prompt appears. At this point, cassette users should CSAVE a BASIC program without changing the tape's position. Disk users should make sure that your disk contains the game program and DOS files.

## BOOTING — CASSETTE USERS

Turn everything off, including the 850 interface. Insert the cartridge into the computer. Then insert the cassette, rewind it and press the PLAY button. Next, hold down [START] and turn on the computer simultaneously. You can release the key when you hear the beep. Now press [RETURN]. The autoboot program will load and execute, whereupon the following sequence should occur (if you followed the example and typed in CLOAD and RUN previously):

1. The command CLOAD will appear on the screen as if it were being typed in on the keyboard. Accompanying keyclicks will sound, and [RETURN] will be pressed.

2. The computer will beep, [RE-TURN] will be pressed again and the BASIC program will load.

3. After the program is loaded, the command RUN will appear, [RE-TURN] will be pressed and the program will start.

#### **BOOTING – DISK USERS**

The disk booting procedure is quite simple. DOS, when loaded, loads and executes AUTORUN.SYS, which takes over the keyboard and runs your program with the command previously given, RUN"D:GAME.

#### **APPLICATIONS**

One interesting experiment is to have Fast Fingers type in a program for you, then RUN it and respond to prompts. When in record mode, type in a short program that requests user input, then type RUN, and then type a response for the programmed input. Note that, when in record mode, immediate-mode BASIC commands do not take effect. While you're typing in the program, try using cursor controls to change a line after it's been entered. When the autoboot program executes, you'll see your program being entered, edited, RUN, and responded to, as if by a ghost!

If you've written a menu-oriented program that requires keyboard input, FF provides an ideal auto-demonstration mode for showing someone how the program works. Fast Fingers can provide an entire sequence of keystrokes that demonstrate the program's various features, and the original program need not be modified at all.

Librarians for user's groups will find this next application to be very useful. By creating an autoboot file that consists of pairs of commands, such as LOAD "D:filename [RETURN] and CSAVE [RETURN] [RETURN], you can transfer groups of disk files to cassette automatically, while leaving the computer unattended!

## ALTERNATE INPUT DEVICE

At the first prompt (for input-device specification), you may supply the name of an alternate input device, such as C or D:filename. This allows you to prepare and save a text file for use with Fast Fingers beforehand. If you supply an alternate specification, Fast Fingers will load the file and display it on the screen.

#### LOAD AND PATCH ADDRESSES

The default load address for cassette systems is 1792 (decimal); for disk systems it is 13312. The initialization code that installs the patch (57 bytes), the patch itself (56 bytes), and the keystroke data (one byte per keystroke) are loaded at this address. Thus, the number of contiguous free bytes needed to load the program is 113 plus the keystroke count. If, for example, you're using cassette and your application requires the RS-232 handler, which loads at 1792 (decimal), you must specify a higher load address such as 4000 (decimal).

The "patch address" is the address at which the FF machine-code routine (the

patch) and the keystroke data are stored. The default value is 1536 (decimal), which is the start of Page 6, an area of memory that is usually free for programmer's user. If your program uses Page 6, or your keystroke count exceeds 200, you must locate a patch elsewhere. One possible location would be above a lowered RAMTOP.

#### **HOW IT WORKS**

Every sixtieth of a second (or one "jiffy"), after the monitor has finished drawing one frame, the Atari Operating System (OS) generates a Vertical Blank Interrupt. This period of time is very short by human standards, but it's long enough for the computer to take care of a number of important housekeeping operations. One such task is to check the keyboard for a keypress. Whenever a key is pressed, the corresponding hardware keycode of that key is stored in location 764 (decimal). When the OS is asked to input a character from the keyboard, it gets the keycode from location 764, converts it to an ATASCII character, and sets location 764 to 255, which means that the key has been read. FF also monitors location 764 during the vertical blank. If it finds a 255, it gets the keycode for the next character from its data buffer and places it in location 764. This makes the OS think that a key has been pressed. FF continues to do this until the data buffer is empty, whereupon control is passed to BASIC or the current application.

## LIMITATIONS OF FAST FINGERS

FF will work only with legal ATASCII characters. Therefore, the following keystrokes should not be used: [CTRL]-[1], [CTRL]-[3] through [CTRL]-[0], [CTRL]-[?], [CAPS/LOWR], the inverse key, all keys with both [SHIFT] and [CTRL] pressed, and the [SHIFT] and [CTRL] keys pressed alone.

FF supports lower case by automatically generating a keycode for the [CAPS/LOWR] key the first time a lower-case letter is used. It will remain in the lower-case mode until it reaches the end of the keycode data. Upper case will still work, though, because the keycodes imply that [SHIFT] is being pressed.

Inverse video is also supported, but it

creates a minor problem. When input data alternates between inverse and normal characters, FF generates a keycode for the inverse key. But if the switch between normal and inverse video occurs at the beginning of a line in BASIC, the character after this keycode occasionally goes undetected by the system at boot time (when higher speeds for keypresses are used). I haven't been able to discover the reason for this. Possible solutions are to press the inverse key before pressing [RETURN] on the previous line, to make the first inverse character optional (such as a space), or to use a slower speed.

FF can call the MEMO PAD (the command is BYE), but cannot return to BASIC by itself. It can also call DUP (the command is DOS), but it will be de-

activated when it returns to BASIC.

When entering text from the keyboard in Fast Fingers, you need press [ESCAPE] only once to invoke that character, rather than two times as is usually the case. To make FF produce only one [ESC] keystroke, remove the following two statements from line 310 of the program:

B\$(L) = CHR\$(28):L = L + 1

If you want to use the end-of-file key-code ([CTRL]-[3]) in your data file, change the Q = 160 in line 350 to Q = 154 and press [CTRL]-[,] when the EOF keycode is desired.

FF cannot simulate a press of the [BREAK] key.

While the autoboot program created by FF is running, the keyboard is disabled to prevent a conflict with the keycodes coming from FF. You can change this with POKEs to locations 16 (POKMSK) and 53774 (IRQEN). POKE both with 64 to enable the keys, 128 to enable [BREAK], 192 to enable both, and 0 to disable both. The keyboard is automatically re-enabled when FF runs out of keystroke data.

#### **SUMMARY**

Your imagination is the only limit to Fast Finger's possibilities. Given FF's practically automatic implementation, it's an easy matter to make your computer execute any command sequence, run programs, or simply perform acrobatics with the cursor. Turning on your computer was never so much fun!

#### Requires 16K RAM

```
REM **** FAST FINGERS ****
95
   REM * BY CRAIG CHAMBERLAIN
96
9 7
   REM
             ANTIC MAGAZINE
             FEBUARY, 1984
98 REM *
99 REM ******
100 ? CHR$(125):? "FAST FINGERS BOOT F
ILE MAKER": ? "by Craig Chamberlain 8/1
/83":?
110 DIM M(112), A(70), F$(16): FOR K=0 TO
 112: READ P: M(K) = P: NEXT K: FOR K=1 TO 7
Ø: READ P: A(K)=P: NEXT K
120 DIM B$ (FRE (0) - 250): L = 1: SHIFT = 64: CT
RL = 128 : MODE = \emptyset : LC = \emptyset
200 ? "PLEASE ENTER INPUT DEVICE SPEC"
: INPUT F$: IF F$="" THEN 200
210 ? CHR$ (125):? "READY": TRAP 700: OPE
N #1,4,0,F$:TRAP 460
3 Ø Ø GET #1, P:? CHR$(P);
310 IF P=27 THEN B$(L)=CHR$(28):L=L+1:
0 = 28 : GOTO 450
315 IF P>27 AND P<32 THEN Q=A(P+28): GO
TO 450
320 IF P>124 AND P<128 THEN Q=A(P-60):
GOTO 450
325 IF P>154 AND P<160 THEN Q=A(P-95):
GOTO 450
330 IF P>252 THEN Q=A(P-185):GOTO 450
340 INV=0: IF P>127 THEN P=P-128: INV=1
345 IF INV<>MODE THEN MODE=1-MODE: B$ (L
) = C H R S (39) : L = L + 1
350 IF P=0 THEN Q=160:GOTO 450
355 IF P<27 THEN Q=CTRL+A(P):GOTO 450
360 IF P=32 THEN Q=33:GOTO 450
365 IF P<40 THEN Q=SHIFT+A(P-5):GOTO 4
370 IF P=40 THEN Q=SHIFT+A(36):GOTO 45
375 IF P=41 THEN Q=SHIFT+A(27):G0T0 45
380 IF P<48 THEN Q=A(P-5):GOTO 450
```

```
385 IF P<58 THEN Q=A(P-21):GOTO 450
                  Q = A (P-15) : GOTO 450
390 IF P<65
            THEN
   IF P<91 THEN Q=SHIFT+A(P-64):GOTO
395
450
400 IF P<97 THEN Q=A(P-41):GOTO 450
405 IF P=123 THEN Q=130:GOTO 450
410 IF P=124 THEN Q=79:GOTO 450
415 IF LC-Ø THEN LC-1:B$(L)-CHR$(60):L
= L + 1
4200 - A(P-96)
45 @ B$(L) = CHR$(Q): L=L+1: GOTO 3 Ø Ø
460 IF PEEK(195)<>136 THEN 700
47 Ø B$ (L) = CHR$ (255): CLOSE #1: POKE 694,
0: POKE 702,64:?
480 ? "TOTAL: ";L;" KEYSTROKES":IF L>2
00 THEN ? "WARNING: TOO BIG FOR PAGE S
IX"
500 ? :? "CASSETTE OR DISK";:INPUT F$:
P=ASC(F$):IF P<67 OR P>68 OR F$="" THE
N 500
510 C=11*(P=67): LA=13312: IF C THEN LA=
1792:GOTO 520
512 WM-8:OPEN #1,6,0,"D:AUTORUN.SYS":I
NPUT #1; F$: CLOSE #1: IF F$(2,2)<>" "TH
EN 520
514 ? "APPEND";:INPUT F$:IF F$="" THEN
 ? "NO":GOTO 520
516 WM=8+(F$(1,1)="Y"):IF F$(1,1)<>"Y"
 AND F$ (1,1) <>"N" THEN 514
520 ? "LOAD ADDRESS (";LA;") ";:TRAP 5
30: INPUT LA
530 PA=1536:? "PATCH ADDRESS ("; PA;")
";:TRAP 540:INPUT PA
540 I=3:? "SPEED 1-9 (";I;") ";:TRAP 5
5 \emptyset : INPUT I : IF I < 1 OR I > 9 OR I <> INT(I)
THEN 540
550 P=1:FOR K=1 TO I:P=P*2:NEXT K:M(60
) = P / 2 - 1
```

continued on next page

```
560 ? : LA=LA+C: A=LA+57: GOSUB 710: A=PA:
GOSUB 710: A=LA+113: GOSUB 710: A=PA+56: G
0 S U B 7 1 Ø: A = L A + 2 9: G 0 S U B .7 1 Ø: A = L A + 3 2
570 GOSUB 710: A = PA + 56: GOSUB 710: A = PA + 1
3:GOSUB 710:A=PA+14:GOSUB 710:M(49)=IN
T(PA/256): M(51) = PA-256*INT(PA/256)
600 LA-LA-C: LO-LA-256*INT(LA/256): HI-I
NT(LA/256):TRAP 700:IF C THEN 630
610 OPEN #1, WM, 0, "D: AUTORUN. SYS": PUT #
1,255:PUT #1,255:PUT #1,L0:PUT #1,HI
620 EA=LA+112+L:PUT #1,EA-256*INT(EA/2
56):PUT #1,INT(EA/256):GOTO 65Ø
63Ø OPEN #1,8,128,"C:":PUT #1,0:PUT #1,INT((L+250)/128):PUT #1,LO:PUT #1,HI
640 PUT #1,PA+55-256*INT((PA+55)/256):
PUT #1, INT((PA+55)/256): FOR K=1 TO 5: R
EAD P: PUT #1, P: NEXT K
650 FOR K-0 TO 112: PUT #1, M(K): NEXT K:
? #1; B$;: IF C THEN 690
660 PUT #1,226:PUT #1,2:PUT #1,227:PUT
 #1,2:PUT #1,L0:PUT #1,HI
690 CLOSE #1:TRAP 40000:CLR :END
700 ? "ERROR"; PEEK (195): TRAP 40000: CL
710 READ I:M(I)=A-256*INT(A/256):M(I+1
) = INT (A / 256) : RETURN
800 DATA 165,16,41,63,133,16,141,14,21
0,162,55,189,57,6,157,57,6,202,16,247,
142,252,2,232,142,255,2,189,113,6,157
801 DATA 113,6,232,208,6,238,29,6,238,
```

| 3 2<br>7 ,<br>8 Ø | 3 | 2  | Ď      | 9<br>A | 2<br>T | Å      | 2  | 2      | 8<br>7 | 4 | 2      | 4 | 5 | 9      | 6 | 2 | 1      | 6 | 5<br>3 | 2      | 2      | Ø<br>2 | ģ | 4<br>8 | 1 | 4 | 10 | , | 2 | Ø<br>7   | 8  | , | 4 | 6 | 3 |        |
|-------------------|---|----|--------|--------|--------|--------|----|--------|--------|---|--------|---|---|--------|---|---|--------|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|---|--------|---|---|----|---|---|----------|----|---|---|---|---|--------|
| 6,                | 2 | 3  | 8      | ,      | 7      | Ø      | ,  | 6      | 9      | 2 | Ø      | 8 | , | 3      | , | 2 | 3      | 8 | ,      | 7      | 1      | ,      | 6 | ,      | 1 | 4 | 2  | , | 2 | 5        | 2  | , | 2 | , | 2 | 3      |
| 2,<br>8Ø          | 3 | jg | D      | Å      | T      | A      | 9  | 1      | 9      | 2 | 3      | 1 | 3 | 3      | 1 | 4 | 6      | , | 1      | 4      | ย<br>1 | 5      | 1 | ,<br>1 | ı | 9 | 1  | g | 1 | <b>b</b> | 5  | 9 |   | 7 |   | 1      |
| 6 2               | , | 2  | 2      | 8      | ,      | 1      | 6  | Ø      | 3      | 9 | 8      | , | 3 | 2      | , | 9 | 2      | , | 2      | 2      | 8      | ,      | 7 | 6      | , | 9 | 8  | , | 2 | 2        | 8  | ï | 9 | 6 |   |        |
| 8 1               | Ø |    | D      | Ā      | T      | A      |    | 6      | 3      | , | 2      | 1 | 9 | 1      | 8 | , | 5      | 8 | 3      | 4      | 2      | ,      | 5 | 6      | , | 6 | 1  | , | 5 | 7        | į. | 1 | 3 |   | 1 | ,      |
| 5,                | 9 | 3  | 3      | 7      | 9      | 3      | 5  | 9      | 8      | 9 | 1      | Ø | , | 4      | 7 | , | 4      | Ø | ,      | 6      | 2      | ,      | 4 | 5      | 3 | 1 | 1  | 3 | 1 | 6        | ,  | 4 | 6 | , | 2 | 2      |
| , 4<br>8 1        | 1 | 5  | Z<br>N | A      | Ť      | G<br>A | 10 | 3<br>4 | S<br>R | 1 | ;<br>7 | 3 | 6 | 9      | 3 | 2 | ,      | 1 | 4<br>A | 3      | 2      | 9<br>1 | 9 | 2      | 7 | , | 5  | 1 | 3 | 5        | 3  | E | A |   | 1 | _      |
| , 5               | 5 | ,  | 1      | Ø      | 2      | ,      | 1  | i      | 7      | 3 | ģ      | 6 | , | ;<br>7 | Ø | , | ġ      | 8 | 7      | ;<br>7 | 1      | •      | ; | 8      |   | i | 6  | 2 | , | 1        | 4  | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | ე<br>ვ |
| -, 1              | 3 | 4  | ,      | 1      | 3      | 5      | 9  | 1      | 2      | 3 | 1      | 1 | 6 | ,      | 1 | 1 | 9      | , | 1      | 7      | 2      | ,      | 1 | Ø      | 8 | , | 1  | 1 | 8 | ,        | 5  | 2 | , |   | • |        |
| 81                |   |    |        |        |        |        |    |        |        |   |        |   |   |        |   |   |        |   |        |        |        |        |   | _      |   |   |    |   |   |          |    |   |   |   |   |        |
| 82                |   |    | D      | A      | T      | A      |    | 1      | 6      | 9 | 3      | 6 | ø | 2      | 1 | 4 | 3<br>1 | 1 | 2      | 3      | 7<br>2 | 1      | 1 | Ø      | , | 7 | Ø  | , | 7 | 3        | 7  | 7 | 8 |   |   |        |

#### TYPO TABLE

| Var |       | chec  | ksum = | 342414 |        |
|-----|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
|     | Line  | num r | ange   | Code   | Length |
|     | 9 5   | - 2   | 10     | LA     | 565    |
|     | 300   | - 3   | 6 Ø    | 0 H    | 5 Ø 9  |
|     | 365   | - 4   | 20     | ΥT     | 493    |
|     | 450   | - 5   | 14     | Z Q    | 5 1 8  |
|     | 516   | - 5   | 60     | ΡÒ     | 5 Ø 5  |
|     | 57Ø   | - 6   | 3 Ø    | G W    | 529    |
|     | 640   | - 8   | 00     | ΧF     | 553    |
|     | 8 Ø 1 |       | 11     | GK     | 500    |
|     | 8 1 2 | - 8   | 3 Ø    | G V    | 7 4    |

4

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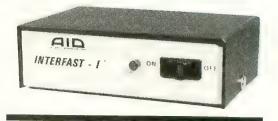
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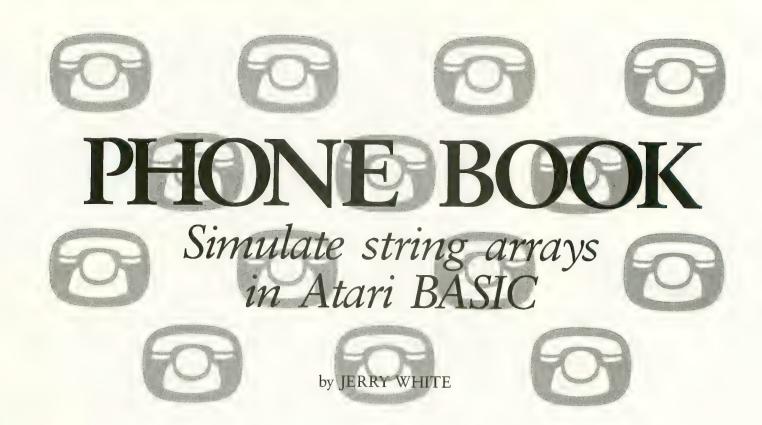
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any ANTIC readers have asked how to simulate a string array in Atari BASIC. This program, called TELEPHON, will serve as a tutorial on string arrays and string manipulation. But for those of you who just want to type in and use this handy little program, I'll begin with some instructions.

## PROGRAM INSTRUCTIONS

TELEPHON will run on any Atari computer with BASIC installed. Either a cassette recorder or disk drive is required. A printer is optional.

The program begins by asking where your data will be stored. Type [C] for cassette or [D] for disk. TELEPHON uses INPUT commands and does not have a sophisticated keyboard handler. Be sure to respond using only normal (not inverse), uppercase characters, and press the [RETURN] key after each entry.

A menu of choices will appear on the

Jerry White is a Contributing Editor to ANTIC. His programs are available from several software companies, notably Adventure International and Educational Software.

screen. A display near the top of the screen shows the number of records currently in memory and the number of records available. A record consists of a name and a telephone number. The information in each record is broken up into five "fields," as shown in Table 1. Also shown are the corresponding variable names and lengths for each field.

|            | Table 1 |        |
|------------|---------|--------|
| FIELD      | STRING  | MAXLEN |
| Last name  | LAST\$  | 12     |
| First name | FIRST\$ | 12     |
| Area code  | AREA\$  | 3      |
| Exchange   | EXCH\$  | 3      |
| Number     | PNUM\$  | 4      |

We do not yet have a data file, so we begin with Menu Choice 1, which directs the program to enter new data. This is also the choice to use whenever you add records. After you have created and saved a TELEPHON data file by writing it onto tape or disk, you will begin each session by using Menu Choice 2 to load your data into memory.

You will then be prompted to enter data into the fields described above. After the five items have been entered, the program will return to the menu

screen. Notice that the display near the top of the screen now indicates that one record is in memory and that one fewer record is available. Enter a few more records using Menu Choice 1, but not too many. We want to make sure that your program is working perfectly before you type in your whole telephone book.

After entering a few records, save your data by using Choice 3 on the menu. A message will appear on the screen that tells you to press the [START] key when your input/output device is ready. Cassette users should insert a blank tape, rewind it to the beginning, and then press the [PLAY] and [RECORD] buttons simultaneously. Disk users must make sure that a diskette with an ample number of free sectors is ready in Drive 1. Our program will use the disk filename "TELEPHON.DAT", but you can choose your own filename. When the [START] key is pressed, cassette users will hear the familiar series of beeps. Press [RETURN] to begin the process of writing your data onto tape.

Whenever you load data using Menu Choice 2, any records in memory will be lost. Be sure that you always use this choice first.

If you make an error while entering data, Choice 4 allows you to correct it.

The program will ask for the "last name" of the record to be altered, and will search through each record until a match is found. Upon finding a match, the program displays an entire record. If this is the record to be altered, respond with [Y]; if not, respond with [N]. If you type [N], the search will continue. If you type [Y], you may then reenter the data correctly. This procedure can also be used to update your files when your friends change their telephone numbers.

Menu Choice 5 tells the program to sort your data by last name. This makes it easier to find a specific record when you print your data using Menu Choice 6.

Those of you with printers will find this program particularly useful. You will be asked to type [S] to display your telephone directory on the screen, or [P] to include a listing to your printer. The listing can replace your old personal telephone book.

To freeze the display while using Choice 6, press the [CTRL] and [1] keys. Repeat this procedure to continue.

Menu Choice 7 ends the program and returns control to the BASIC cartridge.

TELEPHON was written entirely in Atari BASIC. The [SYSTEM RESET] and [BREAK] keys function normally when it is in use. If you accidentally press the [BREAK] key, you can return to the menu screen by entering the following command in immediate mode:

#### **GOTO MENU**

If you'd like to disable the [BREAK] key, add the following line to the program:

14001 POKE 16,64:POKE 53774,112

#### A WORD OF WARNING

Before we move on to the string array tutorial and some of the more technical information, there is one important point that you should understand. TELEPHON dimensions a string called ARRAYS according to the current amount of free memory in your Atari. This will leave very little RAM available for additional lines of code. If you [BREAK] into the program to add code, you should first issue a CLR command in immediate mode. This will make all of the string area available again, but it will also erase any data you have in memory. Therefore, you should always

SAVE your data, and the program itself, before making any changes to the program.

#### SIMULATING STRING ARRAYS

Atari BASIC is often derided by people who are familiar with Microsoft BASIC because it doesn't offer string arrays, although it does feature virtually unlimited string length and numeric arrays. BASIC XL, from Optimized Systems Software, offers both forms of string handling. But if you have only Atari BASIC, don't despair. String arrays can be simulated, and the TELEPHON program is a good example of this.

## HOW TELEPHON WORKS

TELEPHON uses 34 characters for each record. The first 12 positions are assigned to the last name, and unused positions are padded with blanks. Positions 13 through 24 are used for the first name, 25 through 27 for the area code, 28 through 30 for the exchange, and 31 through 34 for the remaining four digits of the telephone number.

Our data is stored in the string called ARRAY\$. ARRAY\$(1,34) contains our first record, and is the equivalent of the first element in a Microsoft array. The equivalent of array element number two would be ARRAY\$(35,68). To find the tenth element (record) in Atari BASIC, we can simply set a variable that is equal to our record length multiplied by 10, and then print the record using the following routine:

STRPOS = 10\*34: ?ARRAY\$(STRPOS,STRPOS + 33)

## MEMORY-SAVING TECHNIQUES

Our data and the TELEPHON program must share the computer's memory, so I've kept the program as small as possible. If the program used all available RAM, there would be no room for data. As written, TELEPHON can store over 800 records of data on a 48K machine. If you delete the REM statements, you can salvage enough memory for about a dozen additional records.

One of the other memory-saving tech-

niques I used in TELEPHON was to use the variable O instead of the number 0 and the variable I instead of the number 1. Six bytes of RAM are saved each time that a numeric variable replaces a number. These variables and their numeric values look similar, so they don't detract very much from program readability.

By studying this program carefully, you can learn how to manipulate strings in Atari BASIC. Table 2 provides a listing of previously undefined key variables and strings, along with brief definitions. This will help you understand the program's logic.

Do you have any other questions on Atari BASIC? Would you like to see other programs like this one in future issues of ANTIC? Please send your questions and comments to Jerry White in care of ANTIC Magazine.

| Ta  | able 2                      |
|---|-----------------------------|
| VAR/STR\$   | DEFINITION                  |
| ARRAY   | Maximum number              |
| BLANK\$   | of records Stores 34 spaces |
|   |                             |
| CHOICE  | Numeric value of            |
|   | chosen option               |
| CHOICE\$  | String value of             |
|   | keyboard response           |
| CLEAR   | Clear-screen                |
| . 4   | routine (line 14000)        |
| DEV\$   | Stores C: or D:             |
|   | TELEPHON.DAT                |
| DING  | Sound routine               |
| ?   | (line 17000)                |
| INLEN   | Length of keyboard          |
| 4   | input                       |
| MENU  | Menu routine                |
| k ***   | (line 12030)                |
| PAPER   | Printer flag                |
| REC\$   | Temporary record            |
| A.,   | storage                     |
| RECLEN  | Record length of 34         |
| RLM1  | Record length               |
|   | minus-1                     |
| STRPOS  | String position             |
| TABLEN  | RAM location 201            |
|   | (tab length)                |
| TOTAL   | Current total of            |
| ti de la companya de | records in memory           |
| WORK\$  | Temporary storage           |
|   | used by sort                |
| 8 3.5 6 . 605.  |                             |

continued on page 57

## Correction.



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#### Requires 16K RAM, 48K recommended \* TELEPHONE DIRECTORY REM BY JERRY WHITE REM 2 ANTIC MAGAZINE 3 REM REM \* FEBUARY, 1984 100 RECLEN=34: I=1: RLM1=RECLEN-I: GOTO 1 0030 1000 REM REM SORT ROUTINE 1010 1020 REM 1030 GOSUB CLEAR:? :? "SORTING"::V=TOT AL: IF V<2 THEN GOTO MENU 1040 V=INT(V/3)+I:FOR ME=I TO TOTAL-V: ? ": ";: FOR L=ME TO I STEP -V: STRPOS=L\* RECLEN: LV = (L+V) \* RECLEN 1050 IF ARRAY\$ (STRPOS-RLM1, STRPOS) <= AR RAYS(LV-RLM1,LV) THEN POP : GOTO 1080 1969 WORK\$ = ARRAY\$ (STRPOS-RLM1, STRPOS): ARRAY\$ (STRPOS-RLM1, STRPOS) = ARRAY\$ (LV-R LM1,LV) 1070 ARRAY\$(LV-RLM1,LV)=WORK\$:NEXT L 1080 NEXT ME: IF V>I THEN 1040 1090 GOSUB DING:GOTO MENU 2000 REM REM READ DATA ROUTINE 2010 2 9 2 9 REM 2030 GOSUB CLEAR:? :? "READ DATA:":GOS UB 16000 2040 CLOSE #I:OPEN #I,4,0,DEV\$:TOTAL=0 2050 INPUT #I, REC\$:TOTAL=TOTAL+I:? "RE CORD #"; TOTAL 2060 STRPOS-TOTAL\*RECLEN-RLM1:ARRAY\$(S TRPOS.STRPOS+RLM1)=REC\$:? REC\$:? :GOTO 2050 3000 REM 3010 REM WRITE DATA ROUTINE 3020 REM NOT TOTAL THEN ? 3030 GOSUB CLEAR: IF "I HAVE NO DATA TO WRITE": GOTO 1500 3040 ? :? "WRITE DATA:":GOSUB 16000 3050 CLOSE #I:OPEN #I,8,0,DEV\$ 3060 FOR ME=I TO TOTAL:? "RECORD #"; ME 3 Ø 7 Ø STRPOS=ME\*RECLEN-RLM1:REC\$=ARRAY\$ (STRPOS, STRPOS+RLM1) 3 Ø 8 Ø ? REC\$:? #I; REC\$: NEXT ME 3100 CLOSE #I:GOTO 15000 4000 REM REM ALTER DATA ROUTINE 4010 4 0 2 0 REM 4030 GOSUB CLEAR:? :? "ALTER DATA:" NOT TOTAL THEN ? :? "I HAVE N 4040 IF O DATA TO ALTER": GOTO 15000 4959 ? :? "ENTER LAST NAME FOR SEARCH" ::INPUT LAST\$ 4060 INLEN=LEN(LAST\$):IF NOT INLEN TH 4070 ? :? "SEARCHING"; 4989 FOR ME-I TO TOTAL:STRPOS-ME\*RECLE N-RLM1:? ".":

4898 IF LAST\$ = ARRAY\$ (STRPOS, STRPOS+INL continued on next page

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```
EN-I) THEN 4110
4100 NEXT ME:? :? LASTS:" NOT FOUND
": GOTO 15000
4110 ? :? :? ARRAY$ (STRPOS, STRPOS+RLM1
4120 ? :? "IS THIS THE RECORD TO BE AL
TERED (Y/N)"::INPUT CHOICE$
4130 IF CHOICE$ = "N" THEN 4100
4140 IF CHOICES="Y" THEN ARRAYS (STRPOS
, STRPOS+RLM1) = BLANK$: GOTO 6050
4150 GOTO 4110
5000 REM
5010 REM PRINT DATA ROUTINE
5020 REM
5030 GOSUB CLEAR: IF NOT TOTAL THEM ?
:? "I HAVE NO DATA TO PRINT":GOTO 1500
5 Ø 4 Ø ? :? "PRINT DATA:": PAPER = 0
5050 ? :? "TYPE S FOR SCREEN DISPLAY O
5060 ? "TYPE P TO USE SCREEN AND PRINT
ER":: INPUT CHOICES
5070 IF CHOICES="S" THEN 5100
5080 IF CHOICES="P" THEN PAPER=I:GOTO
5100
5090 GOTO 5050
5100 GOSUB CLEAR:? :LINE$(25,25)="":L
INE$ (29,29)="-":LINE$ (33,33)="-"
5110 FOR ME-I TO TOTAL
5120 STRPOS=ME*RECLEN-RLM1:REC$=ARRAY$
(STRPOS, STRPOS+RLM1)
5130 LINE$ (I, 24) = REC$ (I, 24)
5140 LINE$ (26,28) = REC$ (25,27)
5150 LINE$ (30,32) = REC$ (28,30)
5160 \text{ LINE} (34,37) = REC\$ (31,34)
5170 ? LINES: IF PAPER THEN LPRINT LINE
5180 NEXT ME
5200 GOTO 15000
6000 REM
6010 REM ENTER NEW DATA ROUTINE
6020 REM
6030 GOSUB CLEAR: TOTAL = TOTAL + I: STRPOS=
TOTAL * RECLEN-RLM1
6035 IF TOTAL-ARRAY THEN TOTAL-TOTAL-I
:? :? "NO ADDITIONAL RECORDS AVAILABLE
":GOTO 15000
6040 ? :? "ENTER NEW DATA:"
6050 ? :? "LAST NAME:";:INPUT LASTS
6052 INLEN-LEN(LAST$): IF NOT INLEN TH
EN 6050
6054 ARRAY$ (STRPOS, STRPOS+INLEN-I) = LAS
T $
6060 ? :? "FIRST NAME:";:INPUT FIRST$
6062 INLEN=LEN(FIRST$): IF NOT INLEN T
HEN 6060
6064 ARRAY$ (STRPOS+12, STRPOS+INLEN+11)
= FIRST$
6070 ? :? "AREA CODE:";:INPUT AREA$
6072 INLEN-LEN(AREA$): IF NOT INLEN TH
EN 6070
6074 ARRAY$ (STRPOS+24, STRPOS+INLEN+23)
-AREAS
6080 ? :? "EXCHANGE:";:INPUT EXCH$
```

```
6082 INLEN-LEN(EXCHS): IF NOT INLEN TH
EN 6080
6084 ARRAY$ (STRPOS+27, STRPOS+INLEN+26)
= EXCH$
6090 ? :? "NUMBER:"::INPUT PNUMS
6092 INLEN-LEN(PNUM$):IF NOT INLEN TH
EN 6090
6094 ARRAYS (STRPOS+30, STRPOS+INLEN+29)
= PNUMS
6100 GOSUB DING: GOTO MENU
7000 REM
7010 REM EXIT TO BASIC
7020 REM
7030 GOSUB CLEAR:? :? "BASIC":? "IS";:
10000 REM
10010 REM PROGRAM INITIALIZATION
10020 REM
10030 DIM LAST$ (12), FIRST$ (12), AREA$ (3
), EXCH$(3), PNUM$(4), BLANK$(RECLEN)
10040 DIM REC$ (RECLEN), WORK$ (RECLEN), D
EV$ (14), CHOICE$ (I), LINE$ (38)
10050 ARRAY=INT(FRE(0)/RECLEN)-2:DIM A
RRAYS (ARRAY*RECLEN)
10060 ARRAY$="":ARRAY$(ARRAY*RECLEN)=
": ARRAY$ (2) = ARRAY$: BLANK$ = ARRAY$ (I, R
ECLEN)
10070 CLEAR=14000:MENU=12030:LET TABLE
N = 201:DING = 17000
11000 GOSUB CLEAR
11010 POKE 82, I: POKE 83,39
11020 ? : ? "TYPE C FOR CASSETTE OR D F
OR DISK";: INPUT CHOICE$
11030 IF CHOICE $ = "C" THEN DEV $ = "C:": GO
TO 12000
11040 IF CHOICES="D" THEN DEVS="D:TELE
PHON. DAT": GOTO 12000
11050 GOTO 11020
12000 REM
12010 REM MENU ROUTINE
12020 REM
12030 GOSUB CLEAR: SETCOLOR 2,12,0:SETC
OLOR 4, 12, 4
12040 POKE TABLEN.7
12050 POKE 752, I:? :? , "ANTIC TELEPHON
E DIRECTORY"
12060 POKE TABLEN,9
12070 ? :? ,"RECORDS IN MEMORY="; TOTAL
12080 ? "RECORDS AVAILABLE=":ARRAY-TO
TAL
12090 POKE TABLEN, 15
            "MENU"
12100 ? :?
12110 POKE TABLEN, 10
           ,"(1) ENTER NEW DATA"
12120 ? :?
           ,"(2) READ IN DATA"
12130 ? :?
           ,"(3) SAVE DATA"
12140 ? :?
           "(4) ALTER DATA"
12150 ? :?
           "(5) SORT DATA"
12160 ? :?
           "(6) PRINT DATA"
12170 ? :?
12180 ? :? ,"(7) EXIT TO BASIC"
12190 TRAP 12190: POSITION 10, 22:? CHR$
(156): CHOICE = 0: POKE 752,0
12200 POKE 764,255:POSITION 10,22:GOSU
B DING: ? "ENTER YOUR CHOICE";:INPUT CH
```

OICE\$ 12210 CHOICE=VAL(CHOICE\$):IF CHOICE<I OR CHOICE>7 THEN 12190 12220 TRAP 20000: ON CHOICE GOTO 6030,2 030,3030,4030,1030,5030.7030 MISC. SUBROUTINES REM 13010 13929 REM 14000 GRAPHICS O:SETCOLOR 2, CHOICE, O:S ETCOLOR 4, CHOICE, 4: SETCOLOR I, 0, 13 14010 RETURN 15000 ? :? "PRESS START FOR MENU": POKE 53279,0:GOSUB DING 15010 IF PEEK(53279) <> 6 THEN 15010 15020 GOTO MENU 16000 ? :? "PRESS START WHEN I/O DEVIC E IS READY": POKE 53279, O: GOSUB DING 16010 IF PEEK(53279) <> 6 THEN 16010 16020 GOSUB CLEAR: RETURN 17000 FOR VOLUME=15 TO O STEP -I:SOUND O, CHOICE, 2, VOLUME: NEXT VOLUME 17010 RETURN 20000 IF PEEK(195)-136 THEN CLOSE #I:G

OTO 15000 20010 ? :? "ERROR ": PEEK(195);" AT LIN E "; PEEK (186) + 256 \* PEEK (187) : GOTO 15000

#### TYPO TABLE

| a | r | i | a | b | ١ | 8 |   | C | h | θ | C | k | S | U | m | = | 1 | 4 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 3 |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|--|
|   |   | L | i | n | θ |   | n | U | m |   | ľ | a | n | g | Ð |   |   | C | 0 | d | θ |   |   | L | θ | n | g | t | h |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 |   |   |   |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | Ø | 6 | Ø |   |   |   |   | A | T |   |   |   |   | 3 | 7 | 8 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 | Ø | 7 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 3 | Ø | 1 | Ø |   |   |   |   | 0 | T |   |   |   |   | 2 | 5 | 9 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 3 | Ø | 2 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 4 | Ø | 3 | Ø |   |   |   |   | Ĺ | Z |   |   |   |   | 2 | 6 | 6 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 4 | Ø | 4 | Ø |   |   |   |   |   | 4 | 1 | 5 | Ø |   |   |   |   | D | G |   |   |   |   | 3 | 7 | 1 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 5 | Ø | Ø | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 5 | 1 | 1 | Ø |   |   |   |   | J | χ |   |   |   |   | 3 | 5 | 8 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 5 | 1 | 2 | Ø |   |   |   | _ |   | 6 | Ø | 3 | Ø |   |   |   |   | Z | Y |   |   |   |   | 2 | 8 | 6 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 6 | Ø | 3 | 5 |   |   |   | _ |   | 6 | Ø | 8 | Ø |   |   |   |   | G | N |   |   |   |   | 3 | 5 | 3 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 6 | Ø | 8 | 2 |   |   |   | _ |   | 1 | Ø | Ø | 1 | Ø |   |   |   | X | F |   |   |   |   | 2 | 4 | 4 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 | Ø | Ø | 2 | Ø |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 1 | Ø | 5 | Ø |   |   |   | R | R |   |   |   |   | 4 | 2 | 2 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 | 2 | Ø | Ø | Ø |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | Ø |   |   |   | M | K |   |   |   |   | 2 | 7 | 4 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | Ø |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 3 | Ø | Ø | Ø |   |   |   | ۷ | F |   |   |   |   | 4 | 3 | 6 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 1 | 3 | Ø | 1 | Ø |   |   | _ |   | 1 | 7 | Ø | 1 | Ø |   |   |   | R | H |   |   |   |   | 3 | 2 | 7 |   |   |  |   |   |  |
|   |   | 2 | Ø | Ø | Ø | Ø |   |   | _ |   | 2 | Ø | Ø | 1 | Ø |   |   |   | M | V |   |   |   |   | 1 | 1 | 9 |   |   |  | Z | 4 |  |
|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |  |   |   |  |





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59

## CHARACTER GRAPHICS

## Redefine the set anyway you choose

by CHRIS CHABRIS

The Operating System of every Atari computer comes with predefined "shapes" for up to 128 characters. These are normally displayed as white characters against a blue background. These characters include upper- and lower-case letters, numbers, punctuation, and graphics characters. These 128 characters may also be displayed in "inverse video" (a blue character against a white background), a feature which effectively doubles the number of discretely different characters available for screen display.

Some of you may not know, however, that you can customize this character set. This customizing feature, which is not provided by many other home computers, not only allows you to create different text characters, such as those found in foreign alphabets, it also allows you to create text objects for applications such as animated multicolor game shapes! Redefined characters are really quite easy to make and use in Atari BASIC.

First, a few definitions you will need to understand the techniques:

Character Sets: A character set is a table located in memory which defines the shapes of the characters to be displayed in Graphics Modes 0, 1, and 2. The character set supplied by Atari contains the patterns for 128 characters and resides permanently in the Operating System ROM cartridge.

Memory Pages: A "page" of memory consists of 256 contiguous bytes of memory whose starting address (the location of the first byte) is evenly divisible by 256. Page Zero, then, represents the 256 memory locations starting at loca-

Christopher Chabris corrects his previous bio. He has not yet graduated from high school, but does work as a Junior Programmer for CSIBM, a computer service company in Yonkers, N.Y. He is a Chess Master candidate, and has represented the U.S. in international matches.

tion 0 in RAM and ending at location 255; Page Six starts at 1536 and ends at 1791.

Bits: A byte of memory is divided into eight "bits," each of which can be either zero or one. A bit equal to one is normally said to be "on." The positions of the bits in a byte are numbered 0 through 7 starting at the right and moving leftward. The decimal value of a byte, which may range from 0 to 255, is found by adding together the value of the "on" bits. An "on" bit in position 0 equals one, "on" in position 1 equals two, "on" in position 2 equals four, "on" in position 3 equals eight, etc. For example, eight bits of a byte may look like 01001101. Bits 6, 3, 2, and 0 are "on." Thus  $2^6 + 2^3 + 2^2 + 2^0 = 77$ , the decimal value of this byte. (Remember: two to the zero power equals one.)

#### **BUILDING CHARACTERS**

The easiest way to begin using character graphics is to follow a hands-on, step-by-step method for incorporating them into your programs. You will need some graph paper to plot out the new character shapes.

Step 1 — Decide what you want your new characters to look like. As an example, let's say we want to design a character for capital omega, the last letter of the Greek alphabet.

Step 2 — Draw your character on the graph paper. Each character occupies an eight-by-eight grid which represents eight rows of bytes (vertical) and eight columns of bits (7 through 0 horizontal). Each one of the 64 bits in this character square represents one pixel (short for "picture element") that can be turned on or off at the programmer's command. Keeping this in mind, let's design the Greek letter omega,

continued on page 62

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#### CHARACTER GRAPHICS continued from page 60

which looks somewhat like an upside-down U with upturns at the sides (See Figure 1, noting that each pixel to be displayed has its bit "on" and each pixel not to be displayed has its bit turned "off").

Step 3 — Calculate the byte value for each of the eight rows of your character as described in the definition of "bit" above, and make a list of the values next to each row on your grid. For the omega character, the decimal byte values are (from top to bottom): 0, 24, 60, 36, 36, 165, 231, and 0.

Step 4 — Decide which existing character you wish to replace with the new character. In this example we will replace the ampersand ("&") character, one of the least used punctuation marks.

Step 5 — Find the location in the OS ROM character set of the character to be replaced. Use Table 9.6 on page 55 of the Atari BASIC Reference Manual to find the position of the desired character. Write this number down at the beginning of the list of byte values that you recorded in Step 3. For the ampersand, this number is six.

Step 6 — Place these nine numbers in a DATA statement. In our case, the BASIC line looks like this:

DATA 6,0,24,60,36,36,165,231,0

Now go back and repeat Steps 1 through 6 for each character that you wish to redefine. Play around a little with some shapes you would like to create. When you are ready to see them displayed on the screen, go on to Step 7 below.

Step 7 — "Download" the standard character set into RAM memory. We want to replace some of the characters (or all of them, if you've been really creative) with our own designs, but we can't change bytes of ROM memory. The solution? Move the entire standard character set into RAM where it is easily accessed and modified. Since there are 128 characters in a set and each character consists of eight bytes, we must move the contents of 1024 bytes (one kilobyte). To do this, PEEK at the value in ROM and POKE it into RAM. First, we use memory location 106 to find out how many pages of RAM are in your computer:

#### CH = PEEK(106)

Next, subtract four (the number of pages in a one-kilobytelong character set) and multiply the result by 256 to find the exact address of the beginning of our memory area:

CH = (CH-4)\*256

Now use a FOR/NEXT loop to transfer the standard character set to this new area. To do this, we need to know that the OS permanent character set begins at memory location 57344.

FOR LOOP = 0 TO 1023 BYTE = PEEK(57344 + LOOP) POKE CH + LOOP,BYTE NEXT LOOP

The standard set now resides in two places in memory (one in the OS ROM, another now in RAM). You can modify the set located in RAM.

Step 8 — Modify the relocated RAM character set to include your new characters. Using the DATA statement written previously, we modify the ampersand character by multiplying the position of this character by eight and adding the result to the variable CH, which is the starting address of the new character set. Another FOR/NEXT loop POKEs these eight bytes of character data into RAM at the proper location:

READ NUM NUM = NUM\*8 FOR LOOP = 0 TO 7 READ BYTE POKE CH + NUM + LOOP, BYTE NEXT LOOP

If you modify more than one character you can, of course, use more FOR/NEXT loops to POKE the character(s) into memory.

Step 9 — Tell the OS to use the new character set instead of the standard set. This is accomplished with a single POKE command to location 756, which is known as the Character Base Address because the value found here points to the character set currently being used by the computer. All character sets must start on a new page of memory, or page boundary, which is evenly divisible by four. So divide the variable CH by 256 to find the page number of your new set and POKE this number into location 756:

CH = CH/256 POKE 756,CH

That's it! We are now ready to PRINT our new characters on the screen.

#### PROGRAM EXPLANATION

Listing 1 is an example of the use of redefined character sets in educational and scientific programming. It displays a schematic diagram of an electric circuit in Graphics Mode 2 and asks first-year physics questions in the text window.

Here is a line-by-line explanation of the sample program; many of the techniques used are adaptable to other programs and applications.

1000-1040: Dimension variables, set up title screen.

1050–1060: Jump to the subroutine that redefines the characters and POKE in the new location as in Step 9.

1070-1120: Draw the circuit on the screen.

1130–1170: Initial message; wait for [START] button to be pressed.

1180-1280: Display a question and input an answer.

1290: Is answer correct?

1300–1390: Wrong answer — display correct answer and go on.

1400–1490: Correct answer – increment number right and go on.

1500-1510: Go on to the next question.

1520–1560: Quiz over — display score and start endless

1570-1710: Subroutine to redefine the character set.

1720–1900: DATA statements for new character shapes. 1910–2010: DATA statements that use the new characters

|   |   |       | 1 181 | 1/6 1 |            |   |   |
|---|---|-------|-------|-------|------------|---|---|
| 0 | 0 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0          | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 0     | 1     | 1     | 0          | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1     | 1     | 1     | 1          | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1          | 0 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1          | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1          | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1     | 0     | 0     | 1          | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0     | 0     | 0     | 0          | 0 | 0 |
| 7 | 6 | 5     | 4     | 3     | 2          | 1 | 0 |
|   |   |       | Bit   | #     |            |   |   |
|   | ( | Capit | al o  | nega  | $(\Omega)$ |   |   |

Figure 1

Checkerboard pattern produces characters at left and right in ANTIC Mode 4.

to draw the circuit diagram.

2020–2220: DATA statements that contain the text of the questions, choices, correct answers, and explanations.

Table 1 shows which characters were redefined in this program and how they were changed.

There are several points worth remembering when you use redefined character sets in your programs. Notice that in line 1590 the step-back from the top of RAM was eight pages. Since the screen memory and display list reside at the top of RAM, and they occupy more than a page of memory, we stepped back two pages. Now, since we want to relocate the entire four-page (1K) character set, we step back another four pages. These additional two pages were required because a 1K character set must start on a page that is evenly divisible by four!

You may remember that in Graphics Modes 1 and 2, only 64 of the 128 characters in a set may be displayed at one time (see the *Atari BASIC Reference Manual*, pp. 46–47, for an explanation of this). If you are using one of these modes, the character set only needs to be 64 characters long, or two pages instead of four, and must begin on an even-numbered page. But since our sample program prints text in the Graphics Mode 0 text window, which uses all 128 characters, we moved the entire set. If you are confused, see Table 2, which shows that the amount of memory you must reserve depends on the graphics mode you are using. When in doubt, use a larger step-back to avoid conflicting with the display list or screen.

You may notice a long pause after the title is displayed. This results from the FOR/NEXT loop used to download the character set from ROM into RAM. Fortunately, you can use a ready-made, machine-language routine to accomplish the same thing in a fraction of the time. Replace lines 1610–1640 in Listing 1 with these:

1610 DIM MOVE\$(32):RESTORE 1630

1620 FOR LOOP = 1 TO 32:READ BYTE:MOVE\$
(LOOP) = CHR\$(BYTE):NEXT LOOP

1625 JUNK = USR(ADR(MOVE\$),CH,57344)

1630 DATA 104,104,133,215,104,133

1632 DATA 214,104,133,213,104,133

1634 DATA 212,162,4,160,0,177

1636 DATA 212,145,214,200,208,249

1638 DATA 230,213,230,215,202,208

1640 DATA 240,96

For those of you who are familiar with 6502 assembly language, Listing 2 provides the source code for this 32-byte subroutine. For those of you who know nothing about assembly language, the routine is fully usable as is, as long as the variable "CH" contains the memory address of the new character set area.

If you're using BASIC A +, replace lines 1610–1640 with the following:

#### 1610 MOVE 57344,CH,1024

Since BASIC A + has a reserved memory area for character sets and the like, you can set the variable "CH" to this address (see pg. L-1 of the manual). Whatever you do, do not use the PEEK(106)–4 method from Step 7, because BASIC A + resides at the top of RAM. If you plan to redefine virtually every character in the set (for the particular graphics mode you're using), consider reserving an area of memory, placing the new character definitions there, and using the POKE to location 756 without ever downloading the standard set. That part of Step 7 becomes useless if none of the standard characters are to be used.

continued on page 65

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of barcode programs

#### CHARACTER GRAPHICS continued from page 63

A problem may arise if you wish to redefine letters and numbers for a Graphics Mode 1 or 2 display and still wish to use the standard characters in the text window. To reinstruct the ANTIC processor to display the standard set, it is necessary to insert a display list interrupt (DLI) before the text window (if you're not familiar with DLI's, see ANTIC, June 1983, for an excellent tutorial). Once you have set up your graphics mode, use the following code:

DL = PEEK(560) + 256\*PEEK(561) FOR LOOP = 0 TO 10:READ BYTE: POKE 1536 + LOOP, BYTE:NEXT LOOP DATA 72,169,224,141,10,212, DATA 141,9,212,104,64 POKE 512,0:POKE 513,6 POKE DL + 14,135:REM — USE POKE DL + 24,134 IN GRAPHIC MODE ONE POKE 54286,192

Listing 3 is the source code for this DLI service routine. It sets the character base address to point to the standard set on the line before the text window is displayed.

#### **MULTICOLOR CHARACTERS**

Now, on to multicolor characters, a little-known feature of your Atari. If you looked at Table 2, you noticed "ANTIC Modes 4 and 5." They don't have a BASIC mode number because they can't be called directly from BASIC like Graphics Modes 0, 1, and 2. To access them, you must modify the display list, a machine-language program that tells the ANTIC chip how to display data on the screen.

If you are unfamiliar with custom display lists, read "Display Lists Simplified" (ANTIC, February–March 1983). You do not need to completely understand display lists to implement multicolor characters, however, as you can use the ready-made routines provided below.

ANTIC mode 4 creates four-color characters that are the

size of BASIC Mode 0 characters — 24 rows of 40 will fit on a screen. ANTIC Mode 5 doubles the height of these characters. Therefore, only 12 rows of 40 will fit on the screen.

The following code will set up a full ANTIC Mode 4 screen:

GRAPHICS 0 DL = PEEK(560) + 256\*PEEK(561) POKE DL + 3,68 FOR LOOP = 6 TO 28 POKE DL + LOOP,4 NEXT LOOP

And this routine will set up an ANTIC Mode 5 screen:

GRAPHICS 0
DL = PEEK(560) + 256\*PEEK(561)
A = PEEK(559):POKE 559,0
POKE DL + 3,69
FOR LOOP = 6 TO 16
POKE DL + LOOP,5
NEXT LOOP
POKE DL + 17,65
POKE DL + 18,PEEK(560):POKE DL + 19,PEEK(561)
POKE 559,A

The POKE to location 559 completely shuts down the screen display while the display list is being modified. If this were not included, ANTIC might get confused by our changes to its program and display some garbage on the screen. This measure is not needed when setting up ANTIC Mode 4 because its display list is just as long as BASIC Graphics Mode 0's. If you know something about display lists, you will notice that the display list for ANTIC Mode 5 is shorter than most. It only requires 12 lines. Consequently, the original display list must be shortened while ANTIC is following it.

Character redefinition is basically the same for multicolor modes as for "normal" modes. Steps 1 through 9 remain the same, but the process of designing new shapes is different.

Each character is only four pixels or dots wide, and each continued on next page

Figure 2a
NORMAL VIDEO

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 3 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 0 |

Numbers are color registers; 0=background color.

Figure 2b
INVERSE VIDEO

| 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| 4 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 4 | 0 | 1 |
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 0 |

Numbers are color registers;
0=background color.

pixel can be any one of four colors. In each of the eight bytes that make up a character, two bits determine the color of a pixel:

00 = Background color

01 = Color register zero

10 = Color register one

11 = Color register two (or color register three, if the character is displayed in inverse video)

Figure 2 is an example of a four-color checkerboard character. Listing 4 is an example of animation with a multicolor character mode. In this program, I've kept the last line of the screen in BASIC Graphics Mode 0 for the display of various messages. The animation is not flicker-free, of course, but it is easy to program and uses several characters. Note that this program incorporates the machine-language routine for moving the character set.

Table 1

| 20010-1                   |             |            |              |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|
| POSITION IN CHARACTER SET | ASCII VALUE | ORIGINALLY | REDEFINED TO |
| 1                         | 33          | !          | 1            |
| 2                         | 34          | 4.4        | L            |
| 3                         | 35          | #          | $\dashv$     |
| 4                         | 36          | \$         | >            |
| 5                         | 37          | %          | 1            |
| 6                         | 38          | &          | Ω .          |
| 7                         | 39          | *          |              |
| 10                        | 42          | *          | Ē            |
| 26                        | 58          | :          | T            |
| 27                        | 59          | ;          | ⊢.           |
| 28                        | 60          | <          | 3            |
| 32                        | 64          | @          | 2            |
| 59                        | 91          | [          | A            |
| 60                        | 92          | \          | _            |
| 61                        | 93          | ]          |              |
| 62                        | 94          | ٨          | 7            |
| 63                        | 95          | _          |              |

Redefined characters used in Listing 1.

Table 2

| GRAPHICS MODE | MEMORY RESERVATION*          |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 0             | 4 Pages                      |
| 1             | 2 Pages (4 with text window) |
| 2             | 2 Pages (4 with text window) |
| ANTIC Mode 4  | 4 Pages                      |
| ANTIC Mode 5  | 4 Pages                      |
|               |                              |

\*Not including screen, display list memory.

Memory reservation required for character sets.

#### Requires 16K RAM

#### Listing 1

999 REM ANTIC MAGAZINE 1000 REM \*\*\* CHARACTER SET EXAMPLE #1 1010 GRAPHICS 2: POKE 752, 1: POKE 82, 1: P OKE 83,38: PRINT CHR\$ (125): REM - SET UP GRAPHICS MODE 1020 DIM LINE\$(20),QU\$(38),ANS1\$(38),A NS2\$(38), AN\$(1), EX\$(38), TAN\$(10) 1030 POSITION 6,2:PRINT #6;"ELECTRIC": POSITION 6,4:? #6;"circuits" 1040 PRINT " Character Set Sample Program": PRINT " by Chris Ch abris" 1050 GOSUB 1570: REM - REDEFINE CHARACT ERS SUBROUTINE 1060 POKE 756, CH/256: REM - ACTIVATE NE W CHARACTER SET 1070 REM - NOW PRINT OUT THE CIRCUIT O N THE SCREEN FROM DATA STATEMENTS 1080 RESTORE 1920 1090 FOR LOOP-0 TO 9 1100 READ P, LINE\$ 1110 POSITION P, LOOP: PRINT #6; LINE\$; 1120 NEXT LOOP 1130 REM - PRINT INITIAL MESSAGE 1140 PRINT CHR\$ (125)

1150 PRINT " : PRINT " when you are ready n . " 1160 POKE 53279,0 1170 IF PEEK(53279)<>6 THEN 1170 1180 REM - NOW WE'RE READY TO BEGIN T HE OUESTIONS 1190 RESTORE 2020 1200 FOR LOOP=1 TO 5 1210 PRINT CHR\$ (125); 1220 READ QU\$, ANS 1\$, ANS 2\$, AN\$, EX\$, TAN\$ 1230 PRINT QU\$:PRINT ANS1\$:PRINT ANS2\$ 1240 FOR LOOP2-1 TO 50: SOUND 0, 100, 10, 8: NEXT LOOP2: SOUND Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø 1250 OPEN #1,4,0,"K:" 1260 POKE 702,64:REM - KEYBOARD TO ALL CAPITALS 1270 GET #1,AN 1280 CLOSE #1 1290 IF AN=ASC(AN\$) THEN 1400:REM - CO RRECT ANSWER 1300 FOR LOOP2-1 TO 100: SOUND 0.250.10 ,8:NEXT LOOP2:SOUND Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø 131Ø PRINT CHR\$ (125); 1320 PRINT OUS

```
1330 PRINT "The correct answer is "; TA 1830 DATA 28,224,32,96,32,224,0,0,0
N$;".": PRINT EX$
                                         1840 DATA 32,224,32,224,128,224,0.0.0
1340 PRINT "Press RETURN to go on.";
                                         1850 DATA 59.126.129.189.165.189.165.1
1350 OPEN #1,4,0,"K:"
                                         29.126
1360 GET #1.AN
                                         1869 DATA 60.0.0.0.255.255.0.0.0
1370 IF AN<>155 THEN 1360
                                         1870 DATA 61,24,24,24,24,24,24,24,24
1380 CLOSE #1
                                         1880 DATA 62.0.0.0.248.248.24.24.24
1390 GOTO 1500: REM - NEXT OUESTION
                                         1890 DATA 63,0,0,0,31,31,24,24,24
1400 REM - CORRECT ANSWER
                                          1900 DATA -1
1410 FOR LOOP2=1 TO 75:SOUND 0,150,10,
                                         1910 REM - DATA FOR SCREEN
8: NEXT LOOP2: SOUND Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø
                                               DATA 2,3.0A
                                          1920
1420 PRINT CHR$ (125)
                                         1930 DATA 1, _\\[\\:\\\:\\\^
1430 PRINT "
                       You are correct
                                         1940 DATA 1,]
                                                            1
                                                                ]
                                         1950 DATA 1,*
                                                             $
                                                                 $
                                         1960 DATA 1, * 24V
                                                            $ R
1440 PRINT "
                   Press RETURN to go
                                                                 $ R
0 n . "
                                         1970 DATA 1,*
                                         1980 DATA 1,1
1450 OPEN #1.4.0."K:"
                                               DATA 1,"\\\\!\\!\\!
1460 GET #1.AN
                                         1990
                                               DATA 1, R = 20& AND R = 30&
1470 IF AN<>155 THEN 1460
                                         2000
                                         2010 DATA 2,%
1480 CLOSE #1
                                         2020 REM - OUESTIONS FOLLOW
1490 RIGHT-RIGHT+1
                                          2030 DATA 1. What does the symbol & r
1500 REM - NEXT OUESTION
1510 NEXT LOOP
                                          eoresent?
                                          2040 DATA (a) coulombs
1520 PRINT CHR$ (125)
                                                                        (b) weber
1530 PRINT "You have completed this
                                          2050 DATA (c) ohms
                                                                        (d) newto
short quiz"
1540 PRINT "
                with a score of "; (RI
                                          n s
GRT/5)*100;" per cent."
                                          2060 DATA C.Ohms measure resistance..
1550 GOTO 1550: REM - USER MUST PRESS B
                                          2070 DATA 2. The resistors are connect
REAK OR SYSTEM RESET TO EXIT
1560 END
                                          ed in ..
1570 REM ** REDEFINE CHARACTER SET
                                          2080 DATA (a) series
                                                                        (b) paral
1580 REM - FIRST, RESERVE MEMORY
                                          | e |
1590 CH-PEEK (106)-8: CH-CH * 256: REM - S
                                          2090 DATA (c) sequence
                                                                        (d) inver
TARTING ADDRESS OF NEW CHARACTER SET A
                                          sinn
                                          2100 DATA B, They are each in separate
1600 REM - NOW RELOCATE THE OLD SET
                                          branches., parallel
1610 FOR LOOP-0 TO 1023
                                          2110 DATA 3. What is the equivalent re
1620 BYTE-PEEK (57344+L00P)
                                          sistance?
1630 POKE CH+LOOP, BYTE
                                          2120 DATA (a) 0.13 &
                                                                        (b) 8.0
1640 NEXT LOOP
                                                                      (d) 72 &
1650 REM - NOW WE'RE READY TO POKE IN
                                          2130 DATA (c) 58 &
THE NEW CHARACTER DEFINITIONS
                                          2140 DATA B, Eq. Resistance-Voltage/Cur
                                          rent (24/3),8.0 &
1660 RESTORE 1730
                                          2150 DATA 4. The power supplied is ...
1670 READ NUM: IF NUM = - 1 THEN RETURN : R
                                          2160 DATA (a) 220 w
EM - IF DONE, GO BACK
                                                                        (b) 19Ø w
1680 NUM-NUM*8: REM - OFFSET INTO NEW
                                          atts
CHARACTER SET MEMORY
                                          2170 DATA (c) 24 w
                                                                        (d) 72 w
                                          2180 DATA D, Power in a ciruit-Voltage
1690 FOR LOOP-0 TO 7: READ BYTE: POKE CH
                                          X Current., 72 w
+NUM+LOOP, BYTE
1700 NEXT LOOP
                                          2190 DATA 5. The current in resistor 1
1710 GOTO 1670: REM - READY FOR ANOTHER
                                          is ...
                                          2200 DATA (a) 0.83 a
2210 DATA (c) 3.0 a
 CHARACTER
                                                                        (b) 1.5 a
                                                                        (d) 1.2 a
1720 REM - CHARACTER REDEFINITIONS
                                          2220 DATA D.Current-Voltage/Resistance
1730 DATA 1,24,24,24,255,255,0,0,0
                                           (24/20), 1.2 a
1740 DATA 2,24,24,24,31,31,0,0,0
1750 DATA 3,24,24,24,248,248,24,24,24
1760 DATA 4,24,12,6,3,3,6,12,24
                                                        TYPO TABLE
1770 DATA 5.64.192.64.64,224,0,0,0
1780 DATA 6,0,24,60,36,36,165,231,0
                                          Variable checksum = 393002
1790 DATA 7,24,24,24,248,248,0,0,0
                                                                Code
                                             Line num range
                                                                      Length
1800 DATA 10,255,0,60,0,255,0,60,0
                                                                 ΑI
                                                                       567
                                             999
                                                    - 1070
1810 DATA 26,0,0,0,255,255,24,24,24
                                             1080
                                                    - 1190
                                                                 BX
                                                                        3 Ø 1
```

continued on next page

1820 DATA 27,24,24,24,31,31,24,24,24

```
1200
       - 1319
                    JB
                          433
                                                   LDA
                                                           #$EØ ; Hibyte of RO
1320
       -1430
                    0 W
                          365
                                          M character set starting address
1440
       -1550
                    E M
                          356
                                                   STA
                                                           WSYNC ; Wait for pro
1560
       -1670
                    D 0
                          367
                                          per synchroniztion
1680
       - 179Ø
                    TR
                          387
                                                   STA
                                                           CHBASE
                                                                    : Now put the
1800
       -1910
                    J L
                          348
                                          new character base into ANTIC
       - 2030
1920
                    ΧZ
                          287
                                                   PLA
                                                                    ; Restore accu
2 0 4 0
       - 2150
                    ΚI
                          473
                                          mulator
2160
       - 2220
                    XX
                          277
                                                   RTI
                                                                    ; All done, so
                 Listing 2
                                           go back to noraml execution
LISTING TWO
                                                           Listing 4
                                          999 REM ANTIC MAGAZINE
; Character set movement subroutine
                                          1000 REM *** CHARACTER SET EXAMPLE #2
: Stored in MOVES
                                          1010 GRAPHICS 0: POKE 752,1: PRINT CHR$(
; Call from Atari BASIC with:
                                          125): SETCOLOR 2, Ø, Ø
    JUNK-USR (ADR (MOVE$), CH, 57344)
                                          1020 DIM DRAW$ (13), UNDRAW$ (13)
ROM
        E O U
                 $ 0 0 0 4
                        : Address of
                                          1030 GOSUB 1260: REM - MODIFY DISPLAY L
ROM character set — should be $E000
                                          IST SUBROUTINE
RAM
        EOU
                 $ 9 9 0 6
                        ; New location
                                          1040 GOSUB 1310: REM - MODIFY CHARACTER
 of character set from variable "CH"
                                           SET SUBROUTINE
INIT
        PLA
                         : Discard numb
                                          1050 REM - DRAW THE SCREEN WITH OUR SH
er of parameters from BASIC
                                          APES
        PLA
                                          STA
                 RAM+1
                                          ":LET UNDRAW$=" IF IF IF
        PLA
                                          1070 POSITION 2,22: PRINT "-----
        STA
                 RAM
                        ; Store the ad
                                          "; : REM - LAUNC
dress of the RAM set from the stack
                                          H PAD
        PLA
                                          1080 POKE 756, CH/256
        STA
                 ROM+1
                                          1090 POSITION 20, 18: ? DRAW$
        PLA
                                          1100 FOR LOOP-9 TO 0 STEP -1
                                          1110 POSITION 20,23:? LOOP;
        STA
                 ROM
                           Do the same
for the ROM set
                                          1120 FOR LOOP2-1 TO 200: NEXT LOOP2
        LDX
                 #04
                             pages of m
                                          1130 NEXT LOOP
emory to do
                                          1140 POSITION 15,23: PRINT "BLAST OFF!
L00P1
        LDY
                # 9 9
                         ; Zero the cou
nter of bytes done
                                          1150 FOR LOOP-1 TO 300: NEXT LOOP
LOOP 2
        LDA
                 (ROM), Y; Get byte fro
                                          1160 POSITION 12,23: PRINT "SHE'S LIFTI
m ROM set
                                          NG OFF":
        STA
                 (RAM), Y; And store it
                                          1170 FOR LOOP=17 TO 0 STEP -1
 in the RAM set area
                                          1180 POSITION 20, LOOP+1: ? UNDRAWS:
        INY
                                          1190 POSITION 20, LOOP: ? DRAW$
        BNE
                        ; If not done
                LOOP2
                                          1200 FOR LOOP2-1 TO 2*LOOP: NEXT LOOP2
with one page, do the next byte
                                          1210 NEXT LOOP
        INC
                RAM + 1
                                          1220 POSITION 10,23: PRINT "MISSION ACC
        INC
                R 0 M + 1
                         ; Add one page
                                          OMPLISHED!":
        DEX
                         ; Reduce count
                                          1230 POSITION 20,0:? UNDRAW$
or of pages left to do
                                          1240 GOTO 1240: REM - USER MUST PRESS B
        BNE
                LOOP1
                         ; If not zero.
                                          REAK OR SYSTEM RESET TO EXIT
 go back and do the next page
                                          1250 STOP
        RTS
                         ; All done, so
                                          1260 REM - MODIFY THE DISPLAY LIST
 go back to BASIC
                                          127Ø DL-PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561)
                 Listing 3
                                          1280 POKE DL+3,68:REM - ANTIC MODE 4
LISTING THREE
                                          1290 FOR LOOP-6 TO 27: POKE DL+LOOP, 4:N
                                          EXT LOOP: REM - CHANGE ALL SCREEN LINES
                                          1300 RETURN
; Display List Interrupt service routi
                                          1310 REM - DOWNLOAD AND MODIFY THE CHA
n a
; Changes Character Base Pointer befor
                                          RACTER SET
                                          1320 CH-PEEK (106)-8:CH-CH * 256
e text window is displayed
                                          1330 DIM MOVE$ (32): RESTORE 1350: FOR LO
       EOU
                $ D 4 Ø A
                         ; Wait for hor
                                          OP-1 TO 32: READ BYTE: MOVE$ (LOOP) - CHR$ (
izontal synchronization register
CHBASE EQU
                                          BYTE): NEXT LOOP
                $ D 4 Ø 9
                         ; Character Ba
                                          1340 JUNK-USR (ADR (MOVE$), CH, 57344)
se Pointer register
                                          1350 DATA 104,104,133,215,104,133
        PHA
                         : Save accumul
                                          1360 DATA 214,104,133,213,104,133
ator for return to normal processing
```

| 1370 | DATA | 212.1  | 62,4,160,0,177                          |
|------|------|--------|---|
| 1380 |      |        | 45,214,200,208,249                      |
| 1390 |      |        | 13,230,215,202,208                      |
| 1400 |      | 240,9  |   |
|      |      | ORE 14 |   |
| 1420 |      |        | F NUM=-1 THEN RETURN                    |
|      | NUM- |        |   |
|      |      |        | TO 7: READ BYTE: POKE CH                |
|      |      | BYTE   |   |
|      | NEXT |        |   |
| 1460 |      | 1420   |   |
|      |      |        | ACTER REDEFINITIONS                     |
| 1480 |      |        | 10,42,42,170,170,0,0                    |
| 1490 |      |        | 8,160,168,168,170,170,0                 |
| . Ø  |      |        |   |
| 1500 | DATA | 66.19  | 0,255,255,255,255,255,2                 |
| 0,85 |      |        | ,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,, |
|      | DATA | 67.19  | 0,190,190,190,190,190,1                 |
| 90,1 |      | .,,.   |   |
|      |      | 68.0.  | 0,0,20,20,40,170,190                    |
| 1530 |      |        |   |
|      | UAIA | _      |   |

#### TYPO TABLE

| Variable | checksum  | - 280222    |   |
|----------|-----------|-------------|---|
| Line     | num range | Code Length |   |
| 999      | - 1100    | UA 488      |   |
| 1110     | - 122Ø    | Y X 3 3 2   |   |
| 1230     | - 1340    | AD 453      |   |
| 1350     | - 1460    | JP 263      |   |
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## GANTLET

#### by STEPHEN GROLL

Requires 16K cassette, 24K disk

To run The Gantlet, you must pass through twelve rooms in sequence. There is only one exit from each room. Your challenge is to find each of them.

Maneuver your player (a colored square) through the gantlet by typing U for up, D for down, L for left and R for right. Then respond to the prompt "How Many Steps" with the number of steps you want to take. Watch your player



carefully as it responds to contact with the walls and other objects. You can catch subtle clues by noticing the way it moves or reacts.

After you've figured out the secret of each room, see how quickly you can run the gantlet. As you move through the rooms, try to discover the step-saving and time-saving moves that will enable you to move through it more quickly. The computer displays your time after you exit the last room. Good luck!

```
REM ** THE GANTLET ***
  REM
         BY STEVE GROLL *
3 REM
         ANTIC MAGAZINE
4 REM
         FEBUARY, 1984
10 GRAPHICS 18: POSITION 5,2:? #6;"THE
GANTLET": POSITION 10,5:? #6;"BY": POSIT
ION 5,8:? #6;"steve groll"
20 FOR T=1 TO 1000: NEXT T: DIM D$(1):TR
  20000
50 POKE 20,0: POKE 19,0: POKE 18,0: LC-0:
RR = \emptyset : UR = \emptyset
100 GRAPHICS 3:COLOR 1:GOSUB 19000:COL
OR 4: PLOT 39,9: PLOT 39,10
140 FOR L=1 TO 100: XX=(37*RND(1))+1: YY
= (17 * RND(1))+1:COLOR 3:PLOT XX, YY:NEXT
 L
160 X = INT (20*RND(1))+1: Y = INT (18*RND(1)
) + 1 : C O L O R 2 : P L O T X , Y : C = 2
200 GOSUB 20000: IF W<>0 THEN GOSUB 192
00:GOTO 100
```

Stephen Groll is pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sonoma, CA. He purchased an Atari 400 about a year ago for use as an educational tool and for his own amusement. He is a self-taught programmer.

```
300 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 0,5,2:
G O S U B 1 9 Ø Ø Ø : X = 1 : Y = 9 : G = Ø
310 COLOR 1: PLOT 1,6: DRAWTO 38,6: PLOT
1,13:DRAWTO 38,13:SETCOLOR 1,2,8
320 PLOT 12,1:DRAWTO 12,18:PLOT 27,1:D
RAWTO 27, 18:0PN=0
330 COLOR 3:PLOT X,Y:GOSUB 20000:IF W=
2 THEN X=33:Y=9:GOTO 397
335 IF Y=13 AND OPN=Ø THEN Y=14:GOTO 3
97
340 IF Y=19 AND W=1 THEN Y=9:0PN=1:GOT
360 IF Y=6 AND OPN=1 THEN X=X+2:Y=4:G0
SUB 19100:W=0:IF X=12 OR X=27 THEN X=X
+1:GOTO 330
365 \text{ IF } (X=40 \text{ OR } X=39) \text{ AND } Y=4 \text{ AND } W=0
THEN X-38:Y-7:COLOR 2:PLOT 17,19:DRAWT
0 12,19:DRAWTO 12,6:DRAWTO 39,6:G=1
367 IF G=1 THEN DRAWTO 39,19:DRAWTO 21
, 19: COLOR Ø: DRAWTO 20, 19: DRAWTO 18, 19:
G = \emptyset : COLOR 2 : PLOT X, Y : RET = 1
380 IF X=28 AND Y=7 THEN X=19:Y=9:GOTO
 397
383 IF X=28 AND Y=12 THEN X=19:Y=17:GO
TO 397
```

continued on page 72

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```
THE GANTLET continued from page 70 385 \quad IF \quad X=38 \quad AND \quad Y=12 \quad THEN \quad X=34:Y=17:GO
```

TO 397 386 IF X=38 AND Y=7 THEN X=33:Y=9:GOTO 397 388 IF W-Ø AND Y-19 THEN 500 390 IF W=1 THEN 398 396 GOTO 330 397 GOSUB 19100:GOTO 330 398 GOSUB 19200:GOTO 300 500 GRAPHICS 3:SETCOLOR 1,9,6:SETCOLOR 2, Ø, Ø: C=1: COLOR 3: PLOT 38, 14: PLOT 38, 17: PLOT 36, 16: PLOT 36, 18: RET = Ø 510 COLOR 2:GOSUB 19000:Y=1:PLOT 19,9 515 COLOR 1: PLOT X, Y: GOSUB 2000 520 IF X=19 AND Y=9 THEN PLOT 39,16:DR AWTO 39,18:GOSUB 19100:GOTO 515 530 IF W<>0 THEN X=19:GOSUB 19200:GOTO 5 1 Ø 900 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 2: SETCOLOR 4,4,0: SETCOLOR 1,0,0:GOSUB 19000:X=1 920 COLOR 1:PLOT X,Y:GOSUB 20000:IF Y> Ø AND Y<9 AND X=39 THEN 1000 930 GOSUB 19200: X=19: Y=9: GOTO 920 1000 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 1: Y = 2: A = 0: B = 0: C = 39: D = Ø: RET = Ø 1010 FOR L-0 TO 19:PLOT A, B:DRAWTO C, D : B = B + 1 : D = D + 1 : N E X T L1020 COLOR 4:PLOT 0,9:DRAWTO 39,9:PLOT Ø, 10: DRAWTO 39, 10: PLOT 19, 0: DRAWTO 19 , 18: PLOT 20, 18: DRAWTO 20, 0 1030 PLOT 17,7:DRAWTO 22,7:PLOT 17,8:D RAWTO 22,8:PLOT 17,11:DRAWTO 22,11:PLO T 17,12: DRAWTO 22,12 1040 COLOR 3: X=19: Y=9: PLOT X, Y 1845 IF LC=5 AND RR=4 AND UR=1 THEN CO LOR 4: PLOT 19, 19: PLOT 20, 19 1046 IF LC=5 THEN COLOR 1:PLOT 0,9:PLO T Ø, 10 1047 IF RR-4 THEN COLOR 1:PLOT 39,9:PL OT 39,10 1048 IF UR=1 THEN COLOR 1:PLOT 19,0:PL OT 20,0 1050 GOSUB 2000: IF W=1 THEN COLOR 1:P LOT X, Y: GOSUB 19200: GOTO 1040 1060 IF X=0 THEN 2000 1070 IF X-39 THEN 3000 1080 IF Y-0 THEN 3100 1090 IF Y=19 THEN 3300 2000 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 1: SETCOLOR 0,4,0 SETCOLOR 4,7,2:SETCOLOR 2,0,0:GOSUB 1 9000 2010 PLOT 0,13:DRAWTO 38,13:COLOR 0:PL OT 39,9:PLOT 39,10:COLOR 2:PLOT 19,16: X-38: COLOR 3: PLOT X, Y: LC-Ø 2020 COLOR 2:PLOT 9,7:PLOT 29,7 2030 GOSUB 20000: IF W-1 OR (W-3 AND LC <2) THEN GOSUB 19200:GOTO 1000 2035 IF X=39 THEN 1000 2040 IF (LC-0 OR LC-1) AND W-2 THEN LC

-LC+1:COLOR 3:PLOT X,Y:Y=5:PLOT X,Y:GO TO 2090 2050 IF (LC=2 OR LC=3) AND W=3 THEN LC -LC+12055 IF LC-3 THEN 2090 2060 IF LC-4 AND W-3 THEN PLOT 19,13:P LOT 20,13:GOTO 2090 2070 COLOR 3: PLOT X, Y: LC-5 2090 GOSUB 19100:GOTO 2030 2586 IF RB-2 AND LB-3 THEN PLOT 18,19: DRAWTO 20.19 3000 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 1: GOSUB 1900: CO LOR Ø: PLOT Ø, 9: PLOT Ø, 10 3010 COLOR 1: PLOT 0,7: DRAWTO 39,7: COLO R 2:SETCOLOR 1,4,2:PLOT 9,4:PLOT 29,4: PLOT 19,14  $3 \emptyset 2 \emptyset X = 1 : D 0 = \emptyset : R R = \emptyset$ 3030 COLOR 3: PLOT X, Y: GOSUB 20000: IF D 0-0 AND X-19 AND Y-14 THEN Y-16: COLOR 1:PLOT 0,9:PLOT Ø,10:D0=1:GOTO 3095 3040 IF DO-1 AND X-19 AND Y-14 THEN Y-16: PLOT Ø, 9: PLOT Ø, 10: DO=0: GOTO 3095 3050 IF DO-1 AND Y-19 THEN Y-1:GOTO 30 95 3 0 6 0 IF Y = 0 THEN Y = 18: GOTO 3 0 9 5 3065 IF X=0 AND W=0 THEN 1000 3070 IF W=2 THEN COLOR 3:PLOT X,Y:X=19 : RR=RR+1: GOTO 3 Ø 9 5 3080 IF W=3 THEN COLOR 1:PLOT X,Y:X=19 : RR = RR + 1 : GOTO 3 Ø 9 5 3085 IF W=1 AND Y=4 THEN RR=0 3 Ø 9 Ø X = 1 9 : Y = 1 6 : G O S U B 1 9 2 Ø Ø : G O T O 3 Ø 3 Ø 3095 GOSUB 19100:GOTO 3030 3100 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 2: SETCOLOR 1,0,0 :SETCOLOR 4,12,2:GOSUB 19000:COLOR 1:P LOT 15,18:DRAWTO 15,11 3110 PLOT 16,13: DRAWTO 23,13: DRAWTO 23 ,8:PLOT 20,4:DRAWTO 33,4:PLOT 30,5 312Ø DRAWTO 3Ø, 15: PLOT 31, 7: DRAWTO 36, 7: PLOT 36,3: DRAWTO 36,9: PLOT 34,18: DRA WTO 34,13:PLOT 26,11:DRAWTO 26,18 3130 PLOT 22,18:DRAWTO 22,16:DRAWTO 18 , 16: PLOT 25, 1: DRAWTO 25, 3 314Ø PLOT 17,1:DRAWTO 17,8:PLOT 14,16: DRAWTO 9,16:PLOT 11,15:DRAWTO 11,9:PLO T 6, 18: DRAWTO 6, 14: DRAWTO 3, 14 3150 PLOT 1,5:DRAWTO 12,5:DRAWTO 12,2: PLOT 5,1:DRAWTO 5,3:PLOT 16,7:DRAWTO 1 4,7 3160 PLOT 1,17:PLOT 2,17:PLOT 3,6:DRAW TO 3,10:DRAWTO 7,10:PLOT 8,9:DRAWTO 8, 13: PLOT 6,2: DRAWTO 7,2 3170 COLOR 0: PLOT 19, 19: PLOT 20, 19: COL OR 2: PLOT 2, 2: Y=18: COLOR 3: PLOT X, Y: RE  $T=1: SEE=3: UR=\emptyset$ 3172 IF SEE-3 THEN SETCOLOR Ø, 2, 8: SEE-Ø:FOR T=1 TO 1000:NEXT T:SETCOLOR 0,12 3175 GOSUB 20000: IF X-2 AND Y-2 THEN C 0 L O R Ø: PLOT X, Y: X-34: Y-2: COLOR 3: PLOT X, Y: GOSUB 19100: SEE-2: W-0: UR-1

#### SOLUTIONS (USE ONLY IF YOU GET STUCK)

Please note: The Gantlet is not easy. Therefore, we're providing solutions to all of the rooms but the first. Try to figure out the puzzles on your own first, but if all else fails read these clues one at a time.

Room One is so easy that even the ANTIC staff figured it out. We'll leave this one to you.

Room Two is a bit tricker. First, move down until you hit the bottom wall; continue to move down until you hit the next bottom wall. You'll find yourself back where you started. Next, move up until you hit the top wall, and you'll be in the top left box. Move to the right edge of this box, then move down and hit the bottom wall. Repeat this procedure twice, and you'll find yourself in the right-middle box; at this point, you'll see four boxes enclosed in a golden rectangle. Move to the lower left-hand corner of the box, and the way out will become clear.

To find the exit from Room Three, first move down 10, then down 8. Next, move right 18, up 1, and right 3. That's it!

Room Four has an invisible door in the upper half of the right vertical wall. Find it and you will be in the fifth room.

Room Five has open corridors at the top and on either side. Each one leads to a number of rooms. Solve all three and the bottom of Room Five will open.

Room Six is at the end of the left corridor. First hit the green square nearest the entrance, then hit the green square at the far left. It will turn black. Hit it again, then hit the first square once more. A door will open to give you access to the last square. Hit it and exit.

Room Seven is at the end of the right corridor. Hit the red square closest to the bottom of the screen. The entrance door will close, but an invisible door will open in the bottom wall. Hit the bottom wall. Then hit the two squares twice each in any combination. Hit any wall and your player will appear at the bottom of the screen. Hit the red square again to open the door and exit.

Room Eight, at the end of Room Five's top corridor, contains a maze that appears once every three moves and then becomes invisible. Hit the square at the upper-left corner without hitting the walls. Your player will appear in the upper-right corner. Move back out of the maze.

Room Nine at the end of Room Five's bottom corridor, contains two white squares. You have two moves to hit one of them. If you do not, another white square appears. When you've hit all of the white squares another square will appear, blink a few times, and then vanish. You must hit the invisible square within four moves, or it will move to another place on the screen. After you've found and hit the invisible square four times, the door to the next room will open.

Room Ten contains two yellow bars. Hit the right bar either three of four times, then hit the left bar five or six times, and a door will open.

In Room Eleven, there are two light blue squares and two dark brown squares. One of each is surrounded by a green wall. Hit one of the exposed squares, and your player will turn the color of that square. If you hit the blue square, hit the bottom of the wall that surrounds the brown square and you will be given access to the square. Hit it, then hit the other brown square. Next, hit the left side of the wall that surrounds the other blue square. Once you've hit all four squares in any order, a door will open to the last room.

Room Twelve contains two black bars and one yellow bar. Touch the yellow bar and your player will turn yellow. Next hit the left black bar. Notice that the yellow bar drops one space. You must hit the yellow bar before you hit the black bars (each time). Hit the left black bar two more times, for a total of three hits. Then hit the right black bar twice. Hit the left bar once, then hit the right bar two more times. Next, hit the left bar twice. By this time, the yellow bar should be in the bottom wall. Hit the left bar once, then hit the right bar once, and the yellow bar will rise, leaving a gap in the wall. Exit from here and your time will be displayed.

```
3200 SEE-SEE+1: IF W<>0 THEN UR=0: GOSUB
 19200:GOTO 1000
3205 IF Y-19 THEN 1000
3210 GOTO 3172
3300 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 3: SETCOLOR 2.15.
4: SETCOLOR Ø, Ø, 14: SETCOLOR 1, 4, 2: GOSUB
 19000: PLS=12: S0-0
3 3 1 Ø Y = 1 : MM = Ø : RET = 1 : C = 2
3312 FOR L=1 TO PLS
3 3 1 5 X 1 = I N T ( 3 8 * R N D ( 1 ) ) + 1 : Y 1 = I N T ( 1 8 * R N D
(1))+1
3320 LOCATE X1, Y1, WW
3330 IF WW<>0 THEN 3315
3340 COLOR 1: PLOT X1, Y1: GOSUB 19400: SQ
-S0+1: NEXT L
3345 IF SQ-Ø THEN SQ-4:GOTO 3415
3350 COLOR 2:PLOT X,Y:GOSUB 20000:MM-M
```

```
3360 IF W=0 AND SO<>0 AND MM=2 THEN PL
S=1:MM=0:GOTO 3312
3370 IF W=1 THEN GOSUB 19300: SQ-SQ-1:M
M = 0: GOTO 3345
3380 IF W=3 THEN COLOR 3: PLOT 0,5: PLOT
 0.6: X = 19: Y = 9: PLS = 4: GOTO 33-12
     GOTO 3350
     COLOR 2: PLOT X, Y: IF SQ-Ø THEN
OR Ø: PLOT Ø, 17: PLOT Ø, 18: GOTO 346 Ø
3418 X1=INT (38*RND (1)): Y1=INT (18*RND (1
) ) : M O V = \emptyset
3420 LOCATE X1, Y1, W
3430 IF W<>0 THEN 3415
3440 COLOR 1: SETCOLOR Ø, 4, Ø: PLOT X1, Y1
     FOR LL=1 TO 10: FOR T=1 TO 10: SETC
     Ø, Ø, 14: NEXT T: FOR T-1 TO 5: SETCOL
OR Ø, Ø, Ø: NEXT T: GOSUB 195ØØ: NEXT LL
                              continued on next page
```

```
3460 GOSUB 20000: MOV = MOV + 1: IF W= 1 THEN
 SQ=SQ-1:FOR L=1 TO 6:SETCOLOR 0.0.14:
GOSUB 19100
3465 IF W=1 THEN COLOR 1:PLOT X,Y:FOR
T=1 TO 20:NEXT T:COLOR 2:PLOT X.Y:FOR
T=1 TO 10:NEXT T:NEXT L:GOTO 3415
347Ø IF W=3 THEN COLOR 2:X=19:Y=9:PLOT
 X, Y: GOSUB 19200: MOV = 0: GOTO 3460
3475 IF MOV-4 THEN COLOR Ø: PLOT X1, Y1:
GOTO 3415
3480 IF X=0 THEN 3500
349Ø GOTO 346Ø
3500 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 2: SETCOLOR 1,6,0
: SETCOLOR 4, Ø, 2: SETCOLOR 2, 2, 6: GOSUB 1
9000: C = 1: RET = 0: X = 38: 0T = 0
3510 COLOR 1: SETCOLOR Ø, 4, Ø: PLOT X, Y: C
0 L 0 R 3 : U P = 1 : U P P = 1 : R B = \emptyset : L B = \emptyset
3520 PLOT 9,8:DRAWTO 9,10:IF OT=1 THEN
 3540
3530 PLOT 29,8:DRAWTO 29,10
3540 IF LB-3 AND RB-2 THEN COLOR 0:PLO
T 18, 19: DRAWTO 20, 19
3542 IF LB>=4 THEN LB=0
3544 IF RB>=3 THEN RB=0
3545 GOSUB 20000: OT=1: IF Y=19 AND W=0
THEN 3700
3550 IF W=3 AND X=9 AND UP=1 THEN COLO
R Ø: PLOT X.8: DRAWTO X.10: LB=LB+1: COLOR
 3: UP = Ø: GOSUB 359Ø: GOTO 354Ø
3560 IF W=3 AND X=29 AND UPP=1 THEN CO
LOR Ø: PLOT X,8: DRAWTO X,10: RB=RB+1: UPP
- Ø: COLOR 3: GOSUB 3600: GOTO 3540
3570 IF W=3 AND X<11 AND UP=0 THEN COL
OR Ø: GOSUB 359Ø: COLOR 3: UP=1: GOTO 352Ø
3580 IF W=3 AND X>27 AND UPP=0 THEN CO
LOR O: GOSUB 3600: COLOR 3: UPP=1: GOTO 35
3585 Y=9:GOSUB 19200:GOTO 3500
3590 PLOT 8,9:DRAWTO 10,9:Y=7:COLOR 1:
PLOT X, Y: GOSUB 19300: RETURN
3600 PLOT 28,9:DRAWTO 30,9:COLOR 1:Y=7
: PLOT X, Y: GOSUB 19300: RETURN
3700 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 2: SETCOLOR 1.12.
Ø:SETCOLOR 4,15,4:SETCOLOR 2,9,4:SETCO
LOR Ø, 3, Ø: GOSUB 19ØØØ: Y=1: KE=Ø: C=2
3710 PLOT 8,7:DRAWTO 14,7:DRAWTO 14,13
: DRAWTO 8,13: DRAWTO 8,7
3720 PLOT 25,7:DRAWTO 31,7:DRAWTO 31,1
3: DRAWTO 25, 13: DRAWTO 25, 7
373Ø COLOR 3: PLOT 11, 10: PLOT 11, 4: COLO
R 1: PLOT 28, 10: PLOT 28, 4
3750 IF KE=4 THEN 3800
3755 COLOR C:PLOT X,Y:GOSUB 20000:IF W
= 3 THEN C=3: KE=KE+1: GOTO 3795
3760 IF C=3 AND W=2 AND Y=13 THEN Y=14
: PLOT 31, 10: GOTO 3795
3770 IF W=1 THEN C=1: KE=KE+1: GOTO 3795
3780 IF C=1 AND W=2 AND X=8 THEN X=7:P
LOT 14,10:GOTO 3795
3785 IF Y=19 AND W=0 THEN 4000
3790 X=19:Y=10:GOSUB 19200:GOTO 3750
```

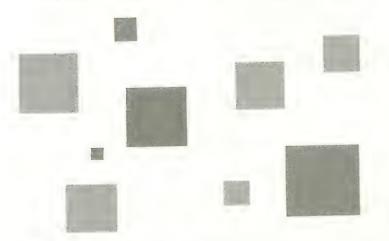
```
3795 GOSUB 19100:GOTO 3750
3800 PLOT 18,19: DRAWTO 20,19: GOTO 3755
4000 GRAPHICS 3: COLOR 2: SETCOLOR 1,6,4
: SETCOLOR 4,0,8: SETCOLOR 2,0,0: GOSUB 1
9 \emptyset \emptyset \emptyset : Y = 1 : C = 3 : H B R = 1 : X X = 1 9 : Y Y = 9
4010 COLOR 3: PLOT 10,8: DRAWTO 10,10: PL
OT 30,8:DRAWTO 30,10:COLOR 1:PLOT XX,Y
Y: DRAWTO XX+2, YY
4020 COLOR C:PLOT X,Y:GOSUB 20000:IF W
= 1 THEN Y=YY-2: COLOR 1: PLOT X, Y: GOSUB
19400: C=1:GOTO 4020
4030 IF X=10 AND C=1 AND W=3 THEN Y=6:
C = 3 : G O T O 4 5 Ø Ø
4040 IF X=30 AND C=1 AND W=3 THEN Y=6:
C = 3 : G O T O 4 6 Ø Ø
4045 IF Y=19 AND W=0 THEN 9000
4050 GOSUB 19400: X=20: Y=3: C=3: GOTO 402
4500 IF HBR=1 OR HBR=2 OR HBR=3 OR HBR
=6 OR HBR=9 OR HBR=10 THEN CC=0:GOTO 4
8 9 9
4510 CC-0:GOTO 4700
4600 IF HBR=4 OR HBR=5 OR HBR=7 OR HBR
=8 THEN CC-0:GOTO 4800
4610 CC-0:GOTO 4700
4700 IF YY <= 9 THEN YY = 10
4705 COLOR CC:PLOT XX,YY:DRAWTO XX+2,Y
Y: IF CC=Ø THEN CC=1: YY=YY-1: GOTO 4705
4710 HBR=HBR-1:IF HBR=0 THEN HBR=1
4720 GOSUB 19100: GOTO 4020
4800 COLOR CC:PLOT XX,YY:DRAWTO XX+2,Y
Y: IF CC=0 THEN CC=1: YY=YY+1: GOTO 4800
4810 HBR=HBR+1:GOSUB 19100:GOTO 4020
9000 SEC=((PEEK(18)*256+PEEK(19))*256+
PEEK(20))/60
9010 MIN=INT(SEC/60): HR=INT(MIN/60)
10000 GRAPHICS 18: POSITION 1,1:? #6;"c
ongratulations you":POSITION 1,3:? #6;
"made it!
           it took"
10010 POSITION 1,5:? #6;"you:":POSITIO
N 2,7:? #6;"hrs.
                   min.
                         sec.": POSITION
 2,8:? #6:HR
10020 POSITION 8,8:? #6; MIN-HR*60: P&SI
TION 14,8:? #6; INT(SEC-MIN*60)
10030 POSITION 4,10:? #6;"PRESS START"
10040 IF PEEK(53279)<>6 THEN 10040
10050 GOTO 50
19000 PLOT 0,0:DRAWTO 39,0:DRAWTO 39,1
9: DRAWTO Ø, 19: DRAWTO Ø, Ø: RETURN
19100 FOR T=10 TO 1 STEP -2: SOUND 1, T*
5, 10, 8: NEXT T: SOUND 1, 0, 0, 0: RETURN
19200 FOR T=1 TO 15: SOUND 1, 100, 12, 8: N
EXT T:SOUND 1,0,0,0:RETURN
19300 FOR T=200 TO 20 STEP -15: SOUND 1
T, 8, 8: NEXT T: SOUND 1, Ø, Ø, Ø: RETURN
19400 FOR T=1 TO 3:SOUND 1,20,10,8:NEX
T T:SOUND 1,0,0,0:RETURN
19500 FOR T-1 TO 10: SOUND 1,25,12,8:NE
XT T: SOUND 1,0,0,0:RETURN
20000 TRAP 20000:? :? "WHICH DIRECTION
SHOULD I MOVE";:INPUT D$:? :? "HOW MA
```

#### IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

NY STEPS SHOULD I TAKE"; : INPUT S 20040 FOR L=1 TO S:COLOR 0:PLOT X.Y:SO UND 0,10,0,0 20050 IF DS="U" THEN Y=Y-1 D \$ = "D" THEN Y = Y + 120060 IF D S = "R" THEN X = X + 120070 IF 0 \$ = "L" THEN X = X - 120078 IF LOCATE X, Y, W 20090 20095 IF W<>0 THEN RETURN 20097 IF X=39 OR Y=19 OR Y=0 OR X=0 TH 30000 COLOR C:PLOT X,Y:SOUND 0,10,0,6: FOR T=1 TO 10:SOUND 0,0,0,0:NEXT T:FOR T=1 TO 15: NEXT T: NEXT L 30010 IF RET-1 THEN RETURN 30020 GOTO 2000

|         |        |        | -   |      | -     |
|---------|--------|--------|-----|------|-------|
| TYP     | Total  | in mo. | 100 | 1000 | -8    |
| E 100 A | 4 68 1 | 1000   | 0   | -    | -will |
|         | -      | -      | -   | _    | -     |
|         |        |        |     |      |       |

|   |     |     |     |    | _ |   |   |   | _ |   | _ | _   |   | _ | _ | _ |    |    |     | _ |   |   |     |   |  |   | _ |
|---|-----|-----|-----|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|---|---|---|---|----|----|-----|---|---|---|-----|---|--|---|---|
| v | ari | а   | b   | ı  | 8 | C | h | 0 | C | k | S | u r | n | = |   | 7 | 16 | 11 | 6 Ø |   |   |   |     |   |  |   |   |
| • |     | . ī |     |    |   |   | m |   |   |   |   | g   |   |   |   |   | Co |    |     |   | 8 | n | q I | h |  |   |   |
|   | Ī   |     |     | _  |   | _ | _ |   |   | 4 |   | ð   |   |   |   |   |    | M  |     |   |   | 8 | _   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 6   | a   |    |   |   | _ |   |   | 3 |   |     |   |   |   |   |    | P  |     |   | 5 | 1 | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 3   |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | 6 |   |     |   |   |   |   |    | W  |     |   |   | 2 |     |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 8   |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | Ø |   |     |   |   |   |   | I  | D  |     |   | 5 | 2 | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | i 1 |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | Ø |   | Ø   |   |   |   |   | S  | Z  |     |   |   | 1 |     |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | Ø   |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | Ø |   |     |   |   |   |   | W  | N  |     |   | 5 | 5 | 6   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 0   |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | g |   |     |   |   |   |   | T  | G  |     |   | 5 | 3 | 9   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 2 0 |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | Ø |   |     |   |   |   |   | C  | W  |     |   | 5 | 7 | 3   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 8 0 |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | Ø |   |     |   |   |   |   | ٧  | Υ  |     |   | 5 | Ø | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 3 0 |     |    |   |   | _ |   |   | 1 |   |     |   |   |   |   | R  | F  |     |   | 5 | 1 | 6   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 1 | 5 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | J  | Н  |     |   | 5 | 5 | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   |   | 1 |   |     |   |   |   |   | D  | Α  |     |   | 5 | 4 | 6   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 3 | 5 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | T  | ٧  |     |   | 5 | 3 | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 4 | 5 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | S  | R  |     |   | 6 | 2 | Ø   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 3 4 | 6   | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 5 | Ø | Ø   |   |   |   |   | L  | Q  |     |   | 5 | 4 | 1   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 5 | 5 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | C  | S  |     |   | 5 | Ø | 6   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 3 5 | 6   | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 7 | Ø | Ø   |   |   |   |   | E  | C  |     |   | 6 | 6 | 1   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 3 | 7 | 7 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | R  | W  |     |   | 5 | Ø | 1   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 3 7 | 8   | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 4 | Ø | 1 | Ø   |   |   |   |   | K  | Q  |     |   | 5 | 1 | 3   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 1 6 | 1 2 | Ø  |   |   | _ |   | 4 | 6 | Ø | Ø   |   |   |   |   | A  | A  |     |   | 5 | Ø | 6   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 4 6 | i 1 | Ø  |   |   | _ | - | 1 | Ø | Ø | Ø   | Ø |   |   |   | γ  | N  |     |   | 5 | 2 | 1   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     |     |     | 11 | Ø |   | - |   | 1 | 9 | 1 | Ø   | Ø |   |   |   | T  | ٧  |     |   | 5 | Ø | 2   |   |  |   |   |
|   |     | 1 9 | 2   | Ø  | Ø |   | - |   | 2 | Ø | Ø | 4   | Ø |   |   |   | Y  | Υ  |     |   | 5 | 5 | 8   |   |  | _ | _ |
|   |     |     |     | 5  |   |   | - | - | 3 | 0 | Ø | 2   | Ø |   |   |   | 0  | A  |     |   | 3 | 4 | 1   |   |  |   | 2 |



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### THE 410 HI-REL MOD

## Eliminate the most frequent cause of bad loads

by CARL EVANS

In the April 1983 issue of ANTIC, I described a "High-Reliability Modification" (hi-rel mod) for the Atari 410 cassette recorder. Unfortunately, many of you missed that particular issue and I've received numerous requests for reprints. In this month's column I'll go back over it in more detail. My first mention of the hi-rel mod was simply an aside in a column devoted to the 410 recorder's digital-playback circuits. This time I'll concentrate on the mod itself.

A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

First, I'll briefly describe the hi-rel mod and why it works. The 410 and 1010 cassette recorders use two parallel filter circuits that convert the signal recorded on a program cassette into a form the Atari computer can understand. Think of these two filters as a couple of bell-shaped curves, like those shown in Figure 1. Any signal that falls in the band (window) of the low filter is converted into a logical "zero"; a signal that falls into the window of the high filter is converted into a logical "one." Any signal that falls outside the windows of both filters is ignored.

#### SPURIOUS SIGNALS

Unfortunately, electronics, like life, is not a simple matter of black and white. Due to a number of different causes, spuri-

Carl Evans is a widely published author in various technical and home computer magazines. He is also the author of a best selling book, ATARI BASIC BETTER AND FASTER.

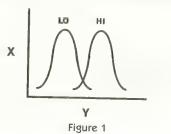
ous signals can get through the filters and cause a bad CLOAD. There is no way to eliminate all of these bad signals, but a careful study of the Atari recorder's digital-playback circuits can provide us with a way to eliminate the most frequent cause of bad loads.

Bad loads are often caused by what might be called "cross-talk" between the two filters. Look again at the curves in Figure 1. You'll notice that they overlap somewhat. As a result, it's possible for the circuit to receive a valid signal but to assign the wrong value to it. Thus, what should have been a zero becomes a one or *vice versa*. The result of this mixup is a bad load.

#### POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

Two possible solutions immediately come to mind. First, we could add a new circuit that would blank out the region of overlap. This solution involves the addition of a "notch-filter" to the circuit. Such a circuit modification would be extremely effective, but it would also require the use of an oscilloscope to properly tune the notch-filter. There has to be an easier way than this to achieve our goal. Let's look at the second solution.

The second solution is to narrow the



skirts of the two filters so that the region of overlap is minimized. This can be accomplished by replacing a single resistor in the feedback loop of each filter. All that's needed is a soldering iron and a screwdriver. This seems to be the best solution we can come up with without spending a small fortune on an oscilloscope.

### REPLACING THE RESISTORS

First, let's take a look at the two resistors we need to replace. They're highlighted in Figure 2. One of them is a 240K-ohm resistor; the other is a 330K-ohm resistor. Their power ratings are not critical.

Please keep in mind that Figure 2 is a photograph of my recorder — your recorder may have a very different layout. The resistors in my 410 are tenpercent resistors, but some of the newer recorders contain five-percent resistors instead. To significantly narrow the skirts of the bell curves, we need to use one- or two-percent resistors.

Some of you may not know how to "read" a resistor. Look at Figure 3. It shows a side view of a typical resistor. Notice the bands on its side. These are color-coded according to an industry standard that is used to label every resistor. The first band identifies the first digit of a two-digit value. The second band identifies the second digit. The third band shows how many zeros should be added at the end of the two-digit value. For example, on a 24000 (240K) resistor a red band (2) is followed

by a yellow band (4), which is followed by another yellow band (X10000). Because of this standardized coding system, our two resistors can be identified by the following patterns:

240K...RED/YELLOW/YELLOW 330K...ORANGE/ORANGE/YELLOW

The fourth color band on a resistor is used to show the "tolerance" of the resistor. The specific codes are:

| GOLD.  |  |  |  | 5%  |
|--------|--|--|--|-----|
| SILVER |  |  |  | 10% |
| NONE   |  |  |  | 20% |

The color codes for the first two bands are:

| BLACK  | 0 |
|--------|---|
| BROWN  | 1 |
| RED    | 2 |
| ORANGE | 3 |
| YELLOW | 4 |
| GREEN  | 5 |
| BLUE   | 6 |
| VIOLET | 7 |
| GRAY   | 8 |
| WHITE  | 9 |

The color codes for the third band are:

| BLACK X1.         |
|-------------------|
| BROWN X10         |
| RED X100          |
| ORANGE X1000      |
| YELLOW X10000     |
| GREEN X100000     |
| BLUE X1000000     |
| VIOLET X10000000  |
| GRAY              |
| WHITE X1000000000 |

#### WHAT IS A ONE-PERCENT RESISTOR

Now I'll explain what I mean by a one-percent resistor — the answer is not what you might think. The easiest way to explain the term is to use an example. Let's take the case of a typical 240K-ohm resistor. When these resistors are first tested, the manufacturer's measuring equipment is set to 240K-ohms, plus or minus one percent. Any resistors whose resistance falls between 237.6K and 242.4K pass this test and are labeled "one-percent" resistors. Those that flunk this test are tested with equipment set at 240K plus or minus two, five, ten, or even twenty percent, depending on how

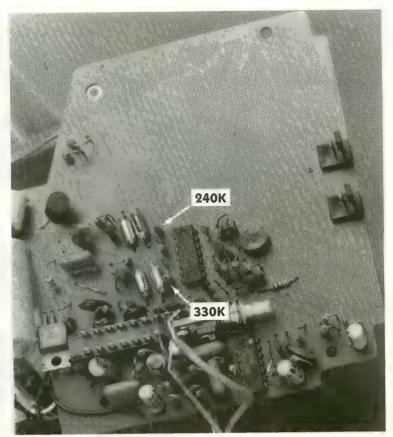


Figure 2
Photo of 410 circuit board

many of them fail at each level.

In other words, a ten-percent resistor is a resistor whose resistance is somewhere between 216K and 246K (in our 240K-ohm example). In this case, regardless of a resistor's exact resistance, it is called a 240K resistor. Any given resistor's resistance normally does not vary by more than a fraction of a percent of its stated value; nonetheless, it is rated on the basis of its performance in the screening test.

#### HOW TO GET THEM

The only real difference between what a vendor calls a one-percent and a tenpercent resistor is price. One way to obtain a one-percent resistor is to buy a batch of resistors and measure their

(BANDS MAY BE CENTERED)

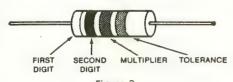


Figure 3
Resistor Color Code Bonding

actual resistance with an ohm-meter. If you want to try this, buy cheap resistors. They don't go through extensive screening tests like those I've just mentioned, so their values will vary considerably.

Another way to get one-percent resistors for the hi-rel mod is to call any good electronics supply house and ask for resistors with the following part numbers: RN-55-D-2433-F (240K ohms) and RN-55-D-3323-F (330K ohms). These are the standard industry part numbers of 1/10th-watt, precision metal-film resistors. You'll be safe with 1/10th-watt resistors, because power dissipation in the part of the playback circuit we're concerned with is less than 1/1000th of a watt.

By the way, I was able to locate these metal-film resistors at a local electronics supply store (they were 38 cents each with a minimum purchase of 25) by making two phone calls in the space of about ten minutes. You may not be able to locate them quite that fast, by you should have no difficulty in finding them.



by GUY AITCHISON

Requires 16K cassette, 24K disk In 1996, two years after America built its first flying saucers, the fiendishly clever warrior race from Cygnus X-1 created its own new method of warfare. Their weapons: thick drops of slime contaminated with explosive space debris. The Cygnians have decided to test their new Galactic Gloop at your moonbase, and it's up to you to defend it.

After typing in the game, run TYPO to check for accuracy and SAVE a backup copy for safekeeping. When you first RUN the game, your saucer (the first of your allotment of five) will appear at the center screen after a brief pause. Beneath you, three drops of gloop are falling; you're carrying one space mine. To stop the dangerous gloop, position your saucer beneath a falling drop with your joystick and press the fire button to deposit a space mine. The gloop explodes on impact with the mine.



To pick up another mine, maneuver into one of the four mine shacks marked with the ANTIC logo. Proceed carefully. If you hit any walls, the crash will be fatal. When you pick up a mine, your saucer turns blue. When you deposit a mine, you hear a "WHOLP" sound. You can carry only one mine at a time, but there is an unlimited supply in the shacks. The game ends when you lose all of your saucers. or if all three ground bases are wiped out.

If you hold out long enough, however, The Cygnians will give up, and you'll win.

The first wave of gloop comes three drops at a time; each of these is worth 20 points. In succeeding waves, more drops fall faster, but their point value also increases.

If you lose, the moon blows up and READY appears on the screen. To play again, type RUN and press [RETURN]. Remember, the galaxy is yours to defend.

NOTE: VERY IMPORTANT!!! To run this program in a DOS system (32K or more RAM), you must type in the following before LOADing the program:

POKE 743,114:POKE 744,46 [RETURN] NEW [RETURN]

```
GALACTIC GLOOP **
 2
             REM
                                                     BY GUY AITCHISON
 3
             REM
                                                            ANTIC MAGAZINE
                                                            FEBUARY, 1984
 4
             REM
 5
             REM
  7
             DIM A$(20), XX(30), YY(30): RESTORE 999
  : GOSUB 2000
 8 \times X \times (1) = 6 : X \times (2) = 10 : X \times (3) = 14 : X \times (4) = 8 : X \times (4) 
  (5) = 12 : YY(1) = 3 : YY(2) = 1 : YY(3) = 5 : YY(4) = 2
  : YY(5) = 4 : S = 1 : WA = 1 : DIF1 = 3
 9 GRAPHICS 17:POSITION 4,8:? #6;"INITI
ALIZING": FOR I=1 TO 400: NEXT I
 10 POKE 106, PEEK (106) - 5: GRAPHICS 17: DL
- ( PEEK ( 106) + 1 ) * 256 : POKE 756 , DL / 256 + 2 : P
OKE 710,180
11 FOR I=128 TO 500: POKE DL+I, PEEK (573
44+I): NEXT I
12 FOR I=1 TO 27: READ 0: P=(0+64)*8: FOR
       A-Ø TO 7: READ X: POKE P+DL+A, X: NEXT A:
NEXT I
```

```
13 DM=PEEK (560) + PEEK (561) * 256+27: POKE
DM, 2: POSITION 2, 22: ? #6; " SCORE = Ø
 SHIPS=5"
22 RESTORE 800: FOR I = 0 TO 22: READ AS: P
OSITION 1, I:? #6; A$: NEXT I
23 POKE 711,102:POKE 709,56
30 POKE 559,62:POKE 53277,3:POKE 54279
 40: POKE 704, 152: PM=11264: POKE 1777, 12
   POKE 1776, 124: RESTORE 1008: FOR I=15
36 TO 1656: READ X: POKE I, X: NEXT I: FOR
I = 1660 TO 1673: READ X: POKE I, X
32 NEXT I: A = USR (1660): POKE 1776, 101: FO
R I-Ø TO 7:READ X:POKE I+PM+1ØØ,X:NEXT
 I: POKE 53248, 124
48 POKE 54286, Ø: POKE 548, Ø: POKE 549, 6:
POKE 54286,64:RESTORE 3000:GOTO 400
100 IF Q<3 OR Q>17 OR W>15 THEN FF=0:R
ETURN
```

continued on page 80

### If you could live on half your income, just think what you could do with the other half!

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#### GALACTIC GLOOP continued from page 78

```
101 POKE 704, 102: COLOR 25: PLOT 0.W+2: F
OR 0-Ø TO 15:SOUND 3,1Ø,Ø,O:NEXT 0:SOU
ND 3,0,0,0:RETURN
202 DM=PEEK (560) + PEEK (561) * 256+28: POKE
  DM, 2: FOR I=128 TO 500: POKE DL+I.PEEK(
57344+I): NEXT I
400 LL=LL+S: IF LL=1 THEN C1=161; C2=32;
FOR I=1 TO DIF1: YY(I)=YY(I)+1: NEXT I
4 Ø 3 I F L L = 2 THEN C 1 = 162: C 2 = 163
404 IF LL=3 THEN C1=164: C2=165
    IF LL=4 THEN C1=166: C2=167: LL=0
410 FOR I=1 TO DIF1: X=XX(I): Y=YY(I): LO
CATE X, Y+2, C3
411 READ TU: IF TU-Ø THEN TU-193: RESTOR
E 3000
412 SOUND 1, Ø, Ø, Ø: SOUND 1, TU/2, 12, 2
418 COLOR C1: PLOT X, Y: COLOR C2: PLOT X,
Y+1:COLOR 32:PLOT X,Y-1:IF LL=1 THEN C
0LOR 32: PLOT X, Y-1
419 IF C3-25 THEN GOSUB 450
420 IF C3>12 AND C3<16 THEN GOSUB 500
422 SETCOLOR 1, I, 8: IF YY(I)>17 THEN GO
SUB 490
424 IF Q<2 AND W<3 OR Q<2 AND W>11 AND
 W < 13 OR Q > 18 AND W < 3 OR Q > 18 AND W > 11
 AND W<13 THEN GOSUB 600
425 Q=(PEEK(1777)/8)-6:W=(PEEK(1776)/8
)-4:IF STRIG(\emptyset) = \emptyset AND FF=\emptyset THEN FF=1:G
0 S U B 1 Ø Ø
427 B=B+Ø.5:POKE DL+712, Ø:POKE DL+719,
Ø: IF B=INT(B) THEN POKE DL+712,129: POK
E DL+719,129
429 Z-PEEK (53252): IF Z>1 THEN GOSUB 75
Ø: POKE 53278, Ø
438 XX(I)=X:YY(I)=Y:NEXT I:GOTO 400
450 COLOR 25:PLOT X,Y:PLOT X,Y+1:SOUND
 Ø, 100, Ø, 14: FOR 0-1 TO 10: NEXT 0: COLOR
 32: PLOT X, Y: PLOT X, Y+1: SOUND Ø, Ø, Ø, Ø
451 SC-SC+(10*WA)+10:POSITION 9,22:? #
452 PLOT X, Y+2: XX(I) = INT(11*RND(Ø))+5:
YY(I) = 1 : X = XX(I) : Y = YY(I) : HIT = HIT + 1 : IF
IT>10+(WA*2) THEN HIT=0:GOSUB 700
459 POP : GOTO 400
490 POSITION XX(I), YY(I): ? #6;" ": POSI
TION XX(I), YY(I)+1:? #6;"E":YY(I)-1:Y=
491 XX(I)=INT(13*RND(Ø))+4:X=XX(I):SC=
SC-5\emptyset:IF SC<\emptyset THEN SC=\emptyset
492 POSITION 9,22:? #6;SC;" ":RETURN
500 COLOR 32:PLOT XX(I), YY(I):PLOT XX(
I), YY(I)+1:D=9:IF XX(I)<9 THEN D=5
501 IF XX(I)>12 THEN D-13
502 POSITION D, 18:? #6;"DEDC":POSITION
D, 19:? #6;" POSITION D, 20:? #6;" D
□1": SOUND Ø, 1ØØ, Ø, 14: FOR 0=1 TO 2Ø
505 NEXT O: POSITION D, 18: ? #6;"
                                      " : P 0
SITION D, 19: ? #6; " POSITION D, 20: ?
```

```
#6:"
        ": FOR 0=15 TO Ø STEP - Ø. 25
507 SOUND 0,100,0,0:NEXT 0:SOUND 0,0,0
, Ø: C3 = 32: DB = DB + 1: IF DB = 3 THEN 9 Ø Ø
509 RETURN
600 IF FF-0 THEN RETURN
601 FF=0: POKE 704, 152: RETURN
700 DIF1=DIF1+1:WA=WA+1:SOUND 1,0,0,0:
IF WA>15 THEN WA-15
701 SETCOLOR 2, WA, 4: POKE 77, 0: RESTORE
1100: FOR I=1 TO DIF1*2: READ X, Y: XX(I)=
X : YY (I) = Y : NEXT I
702 FOR YH=1 TO 17: COLOR 32: PLOT 3, YH:
DRAWTO 17, YH: NEXT YH: RESTORE 3000
705 FOR H=1 TO 5: FOR HH=100 TO 45 STEP
 -1: SOUND Ø, HH, 1Ø, 1Ø: NEXT HH: NEXT H: SO
UND Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø:POP :GOTO 400
75Ø A-USR (166Ø): POKE 54286, Ø: POKE 5324
8, Ø: RESTORE 1016: FOR 0-0 TO 7: READ A: P
OKE 0+PM+33, A: NEXT 0
751 FOR 0=15 TO Ø STEP -0.25: SOUND 3.1
30,12,0:NEXT 0:POKE 1776,34:POKE 1777,
124: POKE 54286, 64: SOUND 3, Ø, Ø, Ø
752 DF=DF+1:POSITION 2,23:? #6;5-DF
753 IF DF-5 THEN 900
754 POKE 53248,124:RESTORE 3000:RETURN
800 DATA E
                            т±, La
        La, L
                              . . .
           ш, ш
                                ш
801 DATA
                            111 . 11
         4, 5
                               1, 1
                                802 DATA
                            8. W
        \mathbf{m}. \mathbf{m}
                              W . 74
          т <del>-</del> , - а
                                La
803 DATA
                             3. D
         ---
804 DATA TO THE THE THE THE
AAAAAAAAKU,
900 FOR I-0 TO 3:SOUND I,0,0,0:NEXT I:
SOUND Ø, 100, Ø, 14: FOR I = 21 TO Ø STEP -1
:COLOR 25:PLOT Ø,I:DRAWTO 19,I:NEXT I
901 POKE 704,0
902 SOUND 0,110,0,14:FOR I=21 TO 0 STE
P -1: COLOR 32: PLOT Ø, I: DRAWTO 19, I: NEX
T I: FOR I-1 TO 200: NEXT I: X-USR (58484)
999 DATA Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø,Ø
1000 DATA 1,8,16,48,120,252,188,204,12
0,2,0,0,16,16,48,120,220,188,3,220,120
, 0 , 0 , 0 , 0 , 0 , 0
1001 DATA 4,0,0,0,0,32,16,48,120,5,204
```

, 188, 252, 120, 0, 0, 0, 0, 6, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 16,

1002 DATA 8,255,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,9,128,64

, 32, 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, 19, 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128

1003 DATA 192,12,3,3,3,3,3,3,3,3,13,0,

1,7,31,63,125,123,246,14,60,255,231,21

16,7,48,120,220,188,220,120,0,0

, 11, 192, 192, 192, 192, 192, 192, 192

9,141,14,15,15

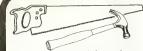
#### IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

1004 DATA 15,0,128,224,248,252,190,94 111,16,236,236,247,123,125,191,159,135 , 17, 15, 15, 12, 195, 255, 60, 195, 255 1005 DATA 18,183,55,239,222,62,253,251 , 231, 19, 129, 64, 64, 32, 24, 6, 1, 0, 20, 255, 6 0,3,15,15,15,207,40 1006 DATA 21,159,126,254,252,248,224,1 28,0,23,255,254,254,252,252,248,249,24 1,24,255,255,255,127,127,191,63,31,25 1007 DATA 129,102,90,60,60,90,102,129, 26,243,224,224,199,207,239,255,255,33, 159, 15, 15, 199, 231, 239, 255, 255 1008 DATA 173,120,2,41,1,208,3,32,43,6 , 173, 120, 2, 41, 2, 208, 3, 32, 67, 6, 173, 120 1009 DATA 2,41,4,208,3,32,91,6,173,120 , 2, 41, 8, 208, 3, 32, 106, 6, 76, 98, 228, 160, 8 1010 DATA 174,240,6,202,224,33,144,13, 142,240,6,189,0,44,157,255,43,232,136 1011 DATA 16,246,96,160,8,174,240,6,23 2,224,218,176,245,142,240,6,189,5,44 1012 DATA 157,6,44,202,136,16,246,96,1 74,241,6,202,224,48,144,223,142,241,6 1013 DATA 142,0,208,96,174,241,6,232,2 24,201,176,208,142,241,6,142,0,208,96 1015 DATA 162,255,169,0,157,0,44,202,2 24,0,208,248,104,96 1016 DATA 129,90,60,255,0,255,126,24 1100 DATA 3,1,6,2,9,3,12,4,15,5,4,6,7, 5,10,4,13,3,16,2,3,3,6,4,9,5,12,6,15,7 , 4, 8, 7, 7, 10, 8, 13, 5, 16, 4 1101 DATA 3,5,6,6,9,7,12,8,15,9,4,10,7 , 9 , 1 0 , 1 0 , 1 3 , 7 , 1 6 , 6 2000 GRAPHICS 17 2001 POSITION 3,2:? #6; galactic gloop ":POSITION 2,10:? #6;"by guy ailchison ": POSITION 2,18: ? #6;" press any key 2015 IF PEEK (764) <> 255 THEN RETURN 2018 FOR I=1 TO 5:NEXT I:GOTO 2015 3000 DATA 193,126,96,193,126,96,193,19 3, 193, 126, 96, 193, 126, 96, 193, 193, 182, 12 1,91,182,121,91,182,182 3001 DATA 193,126,96,193,126,96,193,0

#### TYPO TABLE

| aı | riable | checks  | um = 496 | 012       |
|----|--------|---------|----------|-----------|
|    | Line   | num ran | ge Co    | de Length |
|    | 1      | - 9     | J        | Z 518     |
|    | 1 0    | - 30    | L        | J 58Ø     |
|    | 3 1    | - 202   | K        | P 576     |
|    | 4 Ø Ø  | - 420   | G        | A 53Ø     |
|    | 422    | - 450   | В        | D 639     |
|    | 451    | - 500   | W        | B 527     |
|    | 5 Ø 1  | - 799   | T        | S 561     |
|    | 7 Ø 1  | - 751   | Н        | Y 567     |
|    | 752    | - 893   | E        | P 533     |
|    | 8 Ø 4  | - 100   | 11 Y     | P 576     |
|    | 1002   | - 199   | 17 V     | B 593     |
|    | 1008   | - 101   | 6 Z      | B 511     |
|    | 1100   | - 300   | 11 I     | J 495     |
|    |        |         |          |           |

A



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#### The ATR8000-ATARI system runs these DOSes:

ATARI DOSC

This is the operating system of ATARI computers. The ATR8000 runs this DOS from any

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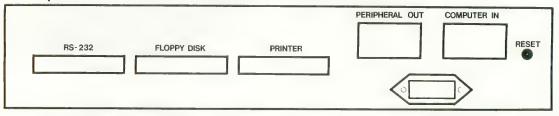
a standard drive. In double density, MYDOS runs on standard drives, single and double-sided, 51/4" and 8"!



This popular operating system comes with the ATR8000. It is a double density DOS that runs

on standard drives. The ATR8000 reads CP/M disks from many other microcomputers, too!

#### What do the ports of the ATR8000 do?



Runs a serial printer or a modem in ATARI DOS and CP/M operation. Includes an automatic 48k printer buffer in ATARI operation. Software includes modem programs.

Runs both 51/4" and 8" standard disk drives. Runs up to four drives that are any mixture of size, density (single, double or quad) and type (single-sided or double-sided).

This standard parallel port runs a parallel printer in ATARI and CP/M operation. Includes an automatic 48k printer buffer in ATARI operation.

Interfaces ATARI peripherals to the ATR8000 for use in ATARI operation. Peripherals, like an ATARI 810 drive, are connected with an ATARI Daisy Chain Cable.

The ATARI home computer is connected to the ATR-8000 here. For CP/M operation, it is also possible to connect an RS-232 terminal here.

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## NIGHTMARE DETOUR

Saved by bank selection

by DAVID and SANDY SMALL

You'll recall from the first three episodes of our "Nightmare Mission" series that we were recently contracted to produce a game for the Atari in roughly one month's time. This was our "nightmare mission." One month is far less than the usual six months allocated for a game's development, and to meet this tight deadline we had to resort to the use of a number of very sophisticated tools and techniques.

In the past three Systems Guide columns we've discussed the equipment and processes we used during the course of this project to get extraordinarily fast results. Our intent is to save the reader time and money by presenting the most efficient means possible to develop Atari programs.

In "Nightmare Mission" (ANTIC, October 1983), we covered the selection of an assembler for the project. We ended up using the MAC/65, which is the

David and Sandy Small are professional programmers who work extensively with Atari computers and Atari-compatible peripherals and software to produce commercial software for the Atari. In Systems Guide, they share discoveries, insights, experiences and secrets of professional programming that should be of interest to others who are at or near their level of practice.

speediest and most powerful assembler we've been able to get our hands on. It saved us a great deal of time during assemblies.

In "Mission Accomplished" (ANTIC, November 1983), we discussed the unique debugger we used for the project, the Bit3 board with the ASM/ED cartridge. This provided us with a separate debugging screen in addition to the normal debug printout, and greatly increased the speed of the debugging process.

Finally, in "Mission Redux" (December 1983), we compared the disk drives that are currently available to the software developer and noted the ways in which a fast disk drive can increase your productivity.

This month, after a one-month hiatus, we'll explore the basics of "bank selection," the newest and "hottest" technique for programming Atari cartridges. Only very recently have bank-selected cartridges become available; in this column, we'll show why they're such powerful new tools for the general Atari user and the software developer alike.

#### **CARTRIDGE DESIGN**

Let's start with a quick overview of the development of the Atari cartridge. The first cartridges had very little memory. Basketball and TicTacToe, for instance, each contain only one 4K memory chip. Star Raiders and the BASIC cartridge each include two 4K chips, for a grand total of only 8K of memory apiece. When these chips were first offered, prices were very high; remember, Star Raiders used to retail for \$60!

Gradually, though, prices fell and chips with more memory were introduced. It isn't uncommon nowadays to find two 8K memory chips (for a total of 16K) contained in a single cartridge such as Donkey Kong.

However, you won't be able to find cartridges with more than 16K of memory. Why not? Well, when the Atari computer was designed, room for only 16K was allocated electrically for the cartridge slot. As a result, cartridge designers were stuck with "address lines" that make it impossible to hook up more than 16K in the machine. Keep in mind, though, that back in 1978 16K of memory was an expensive proposition. When Atari's designers allocated space for a 16K cartridge, they thought they were "over-designing" the computer.

### WHAT IS BANK SELECTION?

How does all of this relate to our game continued on next page

project? After we'd finished developing the game and after every demand of our contract had been thoroughly covered, we realized that our game, which had to fit into a 16K cartridge, was 24K long!

At this point, we had several choices. We could trim the game, but this would mean that we wouldn't meet the terms of our contract. We could change it to a disk-based game, and again fail to live up to our contract's demands. Or we could develop a new kind of cartridge. We chose the latter option, of course, and came up with a cartridge that incorporated bank selection.

Bank selection is based on a simple concept. Imagine, for example, that you have a circuit board which contains two 16K chips, and that both of them are at the same memory address. At any one time, the Atari only "talks" to one of these chips, and the other is inactive. Sometimes the computer selects one "bank" of memory, sometimes the other. In other words, 32K of memory is present on the circuit board, but only 16K is connected to the Atari at any given time. This is an important point, because 16K is, of course, the maximum amount that the Atari will let you connect.

If, however, you design a program that can run in one 16K piece out of one chip, and can then "switch in" the other 16K chip and run on it, you'll have fooled the Atari into accepting your 32K cartridge.

#### HOW WE FOOLED THE ATARI

To trick the Atari into thinking that our cartridge was only 16K, we took two 27128 EPROM chips and bank selected one of them. Since the 27128 is a 16K chip, this gave us 32K of memory on our circuit board. Next, we "mapped," or connected our chips to the Atari in the following manner:

Memory Address \$8000

Chip 1: Bank Selected (4K memory space). Only one 4K bank is active at any one time. 4 banks of 4K are available.

- - - Memory Address \$9000

Chip 2: Not Bank Selected (12K memory space). 12K is always active; 4K is not used.

— — — Memory Address \$C000

In other words, our cartridge had 12K of memory in one chip and four 4K banks of memory in the other; this gave us a total of 16K on-line and active at all times.

How did we accomplish this at the circuit level? Actually, Atari provides almost everything you need. Use a 74LS175 chip, which is a "latch." Connect the "clock" input, which controls when the "latch" occurs, to the D5xx select that is made available to cartridges. Then connect two of the data

inputs to D0 and D1, the system data lines. Finally, connect Q0 and Q1, the outputs, to A12 and A13 of the 27128 to be bank selected. As a result, when you:

LDA # (0.1.2 or 3)STA \$D500

one of the banks (0, 1, 2, or 3) will suddenly appear in the memory region from \$8000-\$9000. The 74LS175 will then be triggered by the D5xx memory-access strobe, and the data line's value will set the 4K selectors (A12 and A13) of the

After going through these steps, we had 16K available to us in 4K sections. but only one section was available at a time. We also had 12K that was always available. Thus, our new cartridge provided us with 28K of available space. Since our game program was only 24K long, we had 4K to spare.

When you use this procedure, some miscellaneous fiddling is required to disable one ROM chip when the other one is active, and to handle similar tasks, but this isn't too difficult. Bank selection is the important thing.

#### BREAKING UP THE PROGRAM

We chose to bank select 4K banks because of the nature of our program. It broke pretty easily into four sections of 4K each, and these were placed under

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the control of the 12K "master" section.

Our game program included four display screens: The introduction, the "ship" page, the "flying" page, and the "landing" page. These corresponded nicely with our four banks. Whenever we needed to go to a new section, we simply flipped in a new 4K section of the 16K ROM. Most of the data in our game was tied in with scrolling terrain maps, so we put the maps into the banks; after all, terrain maps are not used simultaneously. All of the subroutines and drivers, on the other hand, stayed in the 12K of non-switched memory. This is an excellent technique to keep in mind if your application runs over 16K, and if there's a segment of your program that doesn't need to be available at all times.

You should note, though, that you can bank select just as easily on 8K banks if your application "breaks" better along those lines. For instance, 8K is the size of the display memory in ANTIC modes E and F (Graphics Mode 8); by using 8K banks, you can hide a complete display and flip it back in with one memory write.

#### **64K CARTRIDGES!**

In addition, the 27256 (32K) EPROM chip is now available. This means that you can now easily make a 64K cartridge. Only 16K can be used at any one time, but because bank selection is such a fast process, anything you need to access in the cartridge is almost always instantly available.

Imagine a 64K cartridge! This is a

huge amount of memory for a computer game, even a game with a lot of text. For instance, imagine the "Zork" games, from Infocom, running from a cartridge with no disk access to slow things down: The computer would practically give you your answer before you asked the question! Chip prices are coming down, and a number of Atari users who don't own disk drives want software they can use, so in all probability the days of bank-selected cartridges are here to stay.

### BURNING THE 27128 EPROM

Incidentally, you "burn" the 27128 EPROM (28-pin) using a 2732A (24-pin) EPROM burner; you hand-select which 4K bank you burn.

Be careful of pin 20, which you used to apply programming voltage to; if you do this to a 27128 — despite claims of "pin-to-pin compatibility" — you'll fry the chip. They're \$50 each, so this was a tough lesson for us to learn. It turns out that "compatibility" with the 2732 only applies to *reading* the chip.

#### PIRATE-PROOF BANK SELECTION

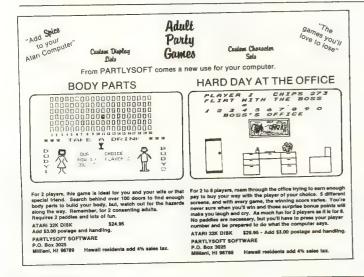
I recently picked up a demo copy of OSS's new ACTION! language, which is cartridge based. It uses a "proprietary memory system" to "pack 24,000 bytes of code into only 8K of memory space."

Now you know how this was done: Bank selection. I opened the ACTION! cartridge to see exactly how they did it, and there was my old friend, the 74LS175. It was connected to two 2764 (8K) chips, and was busily bank selecting them. These two ROM chips occupy the same memory space and flip back and forth between themselves periodically, sharing 16K of code in one 8K space.

This arrangement has a unique advantage: It is extremely difficult to make a pirate copy of this cartridge for a diskbased format.

Nearly every other cartridge on the market has been copied to disk format and then distributed widely. The memory space that the cartridge used to occupy is loaded by the disk drive, and the system is fooled into thinking that a cartridge is present. Not so with ACTION! When the bank-selection technique has been used, you can't get to the whole cartridge at once; furthermore, two separate memory images occupy the same memory space. As a result, there is no practical way to simulate this configuration in RAM without relocating the code, which is an extremely difficult task.

As a software developer, you should keep in mind that bank selection is very effective against pirating. Even if you don't *need* to bank select, because your application fits within 16K, you might want to use it because of the protection it offers. If you use bank selection, your program will not run unless your cartridge is "really" there. That's about the best insurance you're likely to find in this business.





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Out of the sun comes your RAF biplane, loaded down with a deadly cargo of bombs and bullets. But watch out for the antiaircraft guns and the enemy fighters—a hit could mean a tricky landing for repairs and ammo. **BLUE MAX**:

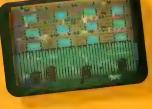




#### Stop the ringing!

Quasimodo knows who stole the crown jewels. He even knows where they are, but the soldiers just won't leave him alone. Help Quasi dodge the guards and return the jewels to their rightful owner. QUASIMODO.\*





#### Catastrophic!

Freddy the Cat is busy all day long, getting into trouble every time he jumps in a window. If he's not dodging bottles, bones and shoes he's chasing mice or avoiding that big bully Bowser von Spike! ALLEY CAT:



#### Take the controls

Your helicopter mission capture vital fuel and weapons, free the enslaved masses, and finally destroy the fortress itself. Will you triumph or be crushed by the fiendish Kraalthanlords? FORT APOCALYPSE.



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## FOR YOUR ATARI



#### Surrounded!

There's nothing like a Rigillian invasion fleet to spoil your day! You just have time to activate the shield envelope and weapons systems before the enemy ships fill the scanner screen. Good luck-you'll need it! DIMENSION X.





#### Color the world

Someone stole all the colors of the rainbow. It's up to Cedrick to put on his magic shoes and hop from square to square putting back the color. But watch out for the Borbuls, the Devils, the Gruebirds and the big holes in the rainbow! RAINBOW WALKER.

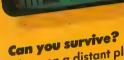




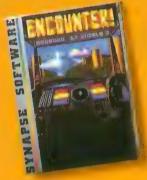
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## DRAWTO FILL

### Color within the lines

#### by JOSEPH TUCKER

Here is a useful and instructive assembly language program that draws areas and fills them with color. I assume that you have the necessary tools: the Assembler Editor cartridge, the *Technical User Notes*, and a book on the instruction set for the 6502 chip.

This program sets up a full screen in Graphics 3, and then fills a box in the upper left portion of the screen. I've included lots of extra stuff for you to experiment with. The program is meant to be illustrative, and does not necessarily reflect good programming practices.

To start the program, we open a channel (IOCB #6) to the screen. Lines 86 and 88 enter the value of a color and put it in the register for Playfield 1. Lines 90 and 96 put the data

value of Playfield 1 in ATACHR (see "Appendix H" of the Technical User Notes).

Lines 98–108 plot points to DRAWTO. Line 112 sets the command byte for drawing; line 116 lets the handler subroutine execute the command. Lines 118–134 complete the drawing of the box.

ROWCRS and COLCRS should end at the lower left corner of the figure. Then, in lines 136 + 138, we put the current cursor in the upper left corner. In lines 140–150 we set up the fill color, set the fill command byte, and fill the figure using the handler.

Finally, in line 152, the image is held on the screen with an endless loop.

System Requirement: 16K, Assembler Editor

```
02 ; GRAPHICS, DRAWTO AND FILL
04 ; PAGE #'S FROM 1982 TECH. REF. NOTE
S
  ; PROGRAM BY JT.
96
  ; ASSEMBLE AND TYPE "BUG"; "GØ6Ø2"
10
   ; SET UP PLAYFIELD COLOR REGISTERS
12
   ; pg. 62
  COLPFØ = $2C4
  COLPF1 = $2C5
20 COLPF2 = $2C6
                 TEXT WINDOW
22 COLPF3 = $2C7
24 COLPF4 = $2C8 ; BACKGROUND
26 ; SOME COLORS YOU CAN USE pg. 190
28 GOLD - $18
30 REDOR = $34
32 BLUE - $78
34 GREEN - $C4
36 ;
38 ; CURSOR REGISTERS pg. 61,212-225
40 ROWCRS - $54
42 COLCRS = $55
44 NEWROW = $60
46 NEWCOL = $61
48 CRSINH = $92F9
50 OLDROW - $5A
52 OLDCOL = $5B
54 FILDAT = $2FD ; FOR FILL COLOR
```

```
56 ATACHR - $2FB ; FOR DRAW COLOR
    *-$0600 ; STARTING ADRESS
   DEV .BYTE "S:" : SCREEN
    LDX #$60 ; IOCB #6
    LDA #$3 ; OPEN
64
    STA $342, X ; ICCOM COMMAND CODE
66
    LDA #DEV&$ØØFF; MASK OFF HI BYTE
68
    STA $344,X ; ICBAL BUFFER ADR. LO B
70
YTE
    LDA #DEV/256 ; HI BYTE
72
    STA $345,X ; ICBAH
74
    LDA #$ØC ; READ/WRITE. SPLIT SCREEN
76
78
    STA $34A,X ; ICAX1
    LDA #3 ; GR. 3
80
    STA $34B,X ; ICAX2
8 2
    JSR $E456 ; LET CIOV HANDLER DO IT
    LDA #REDOR ; RED-ORANGE FOR PF1
86
88
    STA COLPF1
    LDA #2
   ; IN GR. 3 DATA VALUE FOR PF1 = 2
   ; SEE TECH. NOTES APPENDIX H, 60-62
  188-189
    STA ATACHR
96
    LDA #Ø ; PLOT AND
      STA OLDCOL
0100
      LDA #12
```

continued on next page



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#### ASSEMBLY LANGUAGE

| 0104 | STA   | OLDROW     |  |
|------|-------|------------|--|
| 0106 | STA   | COLCRS     | ; DRAWTO POSITIONS   |
|      |       | ROWCRS     |  |
|      |       | #\$60 ; I  | OCB #6   |
|      |       |            | RAW COMMAND pg. 60,2   |
| 18   |       | •          | ,  |
| 0114 | STA   | \$342,X    | ; ICCOM  |
| 0116 | JSR   | \$E456 ;   | CIOV   |
|      |       |            | W NEW POSITIONS  |
|      |       | ROWCRS     |  |
|      |       | \$ E 4 5 6 |  |
|      | LDA   |            |  |
| 0126 | STA   | COLCRS     |  |
|      |       | \$ E 4 5 6 |  |
|      | LDA   |            |  |
| 0132 | STA   | ROWCRS     |  |
|      |       | \$ E 4 5 6 |  |
|      | LDA   |            |  |
|      |       | ROWCRS     |  |
|      |       |            | COLOR DATA   |
|      |       |            | ; FILL WITH PFØ COLOR  |
| 0144 | LDX   | #\$60      |  |
| Ø146 | LDA   | #\$12 ; FI | ILL CODE   |
| 0148 | STA   | \$342,X    |  |
|      |       | \$ E 4 5 6 |  |
|      |       |            | P ; HOLD ON SCREEN   |
| 0154 | : NOW | MAKE YOU   | UR OWN PLAYFIELDS 🔼  |
|      |       |            | THE THE PARTY AND THE PARTY AN |

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#### A CINDERELLA STORY continued from page 18

scan is completed in roughly one sixtieth of a second. At the end of a scan, the electron beam is turned off and aimed again at the top-left portion of the screen in preparation for a fresh scan. The period during which the electron beam is off is called the vertical blank. Machine-language programmers take advantage of this time to make graphics changes and move players and missiles. Since these changes are made every sixtieth of a second, the resulting animation is smooth and clean. Another use for the

VBI period is to play music or produce

sounds that are independent of the main

program.

During the VBI, the OS performs a number of housekeeping tasks. These include incrementing or decrementing different timers, updating readings from controllers and copying data from one register to another. Two addresses are used to help the processor find the VBI routines. The programmer can change these addresses to force the 6502 to perform a different routine. Of course, one must be careful to direct the 6502 back to the correct place in the VBI routine

Otherwise, the 6502 will run out of control, causing the computer to become unresponsive to commands. If this happens, the only solution is to turn the computer off and then back on. The system monitor will then come into play and initialize the computer's memory registers properly. As a result, the beast will once again become domesticated.

### INTERRUPTING THE DISPLAY LIST

Remember the display list, the miniprogram used by ANTIC to control the screen display? The programmer can modify one of the display list instructions to cause an interrupt (called a display list interrupt or DLI) to occur at a precise scan line on the screen. The 6502 will then go to a certain memory location, get an address, go to that address and execute the program it finds there. Of course, the programmer must have previously loaded his DLI program into memory and placed the program address in the proper place.

At the start of each screen scan line there is a period during which the electron beam is off. This is called the hori-

zontal blank. Any changes made during this time will not be seen until the electron beam is turned back on. Again, this allows neat, clean graphics to be made. The time period of the horizontal blank is much shorter than that of the vertical blank. Thus, only a limited number of changes can be made during a single DLI. But since a DLI can be set at every screen scan line, if desired, this can be a very powerful tool. For example, multiple players can be made to appear on the screen when the program is actually using only one player. At various positions on the screen, DLI's can be used to change a player's horizontal position, or even its image. Joust is a good example of this technique. I've provided a useful DLI routine, to be used from BASIC, in the paragraphs below.

#### PLOTTING COLORS

If you've read the BASIC manuals, you know that Graphics Modes 3, 5 and 7 are four-color modes. One color is used for the background. So, in theory, you can plot independently in three colors. If you are using a text window, however, you will find that things aren't that

Listing 1

```
1
  REM
          OS DEMO 1 ****
2
  REM
        BY FRED PINHO
3
  REM
        ANTIC MAGAZINE
4
  REM
      * FEBUARY, 1984
5
 REM
      *********
10 GRAPHICS 3:F-0:? "NORMAL SCREEN(NO
DLI).": ? "CAN YOU SEE THE LETTERS?";: R
      GR.5 OR GR.7
E M
   COLOR 1: PLOT 9, Ø: DRAWTO 9, 19
   COLOR 2: PLOT 19, Ø: DRAWTO 19, 19
4.0
   COLOR 3: PLOT 29, Ø: DRAWTO 29, 19
50 POKE 752,1:GOSUB 300
60 SETCOLOR 0,5,6:GOSUB
65 SETCOLOR
             Ø, 2, 8: GOSUB
70
  SETCOLOR
            1,2,6:GOSUB
80 SETCOLOR 1,2,4:GOSUB 300
90 SETCOLOR 1,12,10:GOSUB 300
100 SETCOLOR 2,12,4:GOSUB 300
    SETCOLOR 2,12,10:GOSUB 300
119
120
    SETCOLOR 2,9,4:GOSUB 300
130 IF F=1 THEN POKE 54286,64:GOTO 10
135 REM POKE OF 64 (NORMAL VALUE)
54286 DISABLES DLI
140 ? CHR$ (125): ? "SETTING UP DLI!": : F
-1:GOSUB 300
```

```
150 DL=PEEK(560)+256*PEEK(561)
160 DLI=DL+24:REM FOR GR.5 USE DL+44,F
OR GR.7 USE DL + 84
170 POKE DLI, 136: REM FOR GR. 5 POKE DLI
,138 AND FOR GR.7 POKE DLI,141
180 RESTORE 190: FOR I-0 TO 15: READ D:P
OKE 1536+I, D: NEXT I
190 DATA 72,169,202,141,10,212,141,23,
208,169,148,141,24,208,104,64
200 POKE 512,0:POKE 513,6:POKE 54286,1
92
205 REM LOCATIONS 512 & 513 HOLD ADDRE
SS OF OLI ROUTINE
207 REM POKE INTO 54286 ENABLES DLI
        DONE!": ? "CAN YOU SEE THE LETT
ERS?"; : GOSUB 300: GOTO 20
300 FOR T=1 TO. 500:NEXT T:RETURN
               TYPO TABLE
Variable checksum = 88021
   Line num
             range
                       Code
                              Length
             65
                        FJ
                               476
   7 0
             170
                        PU
                               549
   180
             300
                        0 E
                               356
                             continued on page 97
```

#### **ANTIC GAMES DISK #1** 1. Chicken: a great game from ANTIC V.1, 2. Hangman: the traditional word game 3. Creation: a version of Life 4. Reverse: order of string numbers 5. Monopoly: computerized! 6. Lunar lander: select terrain (stick) 7. Zonex: hidden color patters in grid 8. Clewso: detective edventure, graphics **ANTIC GAMES DISK #2** 1. Speed Demon: from ANTIC V.1, No.4 2. Guy' Grid Game 3. Deathstar: from ANTIC V.1, No.2 4. Błackjack: Vegas rule 5. Civil War: a strategic simulation 6. Artillery: firing strategy game 7. Super Wumpus: text adventure in BASIC **ANTIC GAMES DISK#3** 9. Showdown 3. FROG: from ANTIC VI, No.3 4. Draw: Guy Hur 5. Plus Zero 6. Collisi, and more 3. Home inventory ANTIC GAMES DISK #4 4. KEY 6: Cipher coding 5. Renumber 1. Vultures: from Stan Ockers 6. Compare: listings for differences 2. Castle Hexagon: also by Stan Ockers 7. SUPER: meni 3. Adventure: The remainder of the disk 8. Modem contains an adventure same program which you can play, on you can use the program to white your own adventure.

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- 6. Color: 128 color: at once 7. Printnop: connect parallel printer from lacks 3 & 4

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- 2. Tiny Text: from ANTIC V.1, No.6 3. GTIA text window: from ANTIC V.2,
- 4. Label: disk label on Epson 5. Set up printer sets up AX80 for
- 6. Keyboard: tutorial & more

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ANTIC V.1, No.5

slightly improved

8. Aceyducy & mo

4. Mastermind

3. Yahtzee

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1. Bats: who else? Stan Ockers, from

5. Hamurabi: the classic simulation 6. Slatom: become a master schusser 7. Couch: analyze yourself

**DEMO #1** 

8. Message and more

2. Rainbow

4. ATARI logo

3. Horses

5. Oxygen

6. Spiral

7. Pretty

2. Stellar Defense: from ANTIC V.1, No.6,

ANTIC GRAPHICS

1. Spider: from ANTIC V.1, No.3

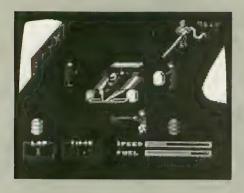
#### NEW PRODUCTS

The New Product Listings are compiled and written by Caitlin Morgan, Editorial Assistant. ANTIC welcomes submissions of products and information for this part of the magazine.

#### **V-COS**

(utility) VERVAN Software 1953 W. 11th St. Upland, CA 91786 (714) 946-5805 16K — cassette \$24.95

V-COS is a machine-language program that gives you more control over your computer's cassette operations, cassette baud rate, tape-leader length, screen background color, character-set color, and left and right screen margins. Simple keyboard commands verify cassette files and control the cassette's motor.



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(data-base) Royal Software 2160 W. 11th Ave. Eugene, OR 94702 (503) 683-5361 48K — diskette \$49.95

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#### ATARI BASIC — FASTER AND BETTER

(book) IJG, Inc. 1953 W. 11th St. Upland, CA 91786 (714) 946-5805 \$29.95

Carl Evans, well-known to ANTIC readers as the author of "Tape Topics" and "Tangle Angles," has written an introduction to Atari BASIC. This book is the result of his attempts to get the most out of his computer with the least programming effort.

#### UNDERSTANDING ATARI GRAPHICS

(book) Alfred Publishing Co., Inc. P.O. Box 5964 15335 Morrison St. Sherman Oaks, CA 91413 (213) 995-8811 \$2,95

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Return the favor. When you call a manufacturer or supplier about a product you've seen advertised or otherwise mentioned in ANTIC, please tell them so. This will help us to continue to bring you the latest information about products that will make your Atari computer an even more valuable investment in the future. —ANTIC ED



#### RM 1000

(modem) Macrotronics, Inc. 1125 N. Golden State Blvd., Ste. G Turlock, CA 95380 (209) 667-2888 \$239.00

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(application)
Programmer's Institute
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#### NEW PRODUCTS

capable of printing and preparing twentyfive federal forms and tax schedules, all of which are included in the program.

#### COMPUGARD

(home security system) Tomorrow Tech Box 308 5465 Wm, Flynn Hwy. Gibsonia, PA 15044 (412) 433-8360 24K — diskette \$145.00

Now that your house is full of Christmas booty, are you afraid to leave it unattended? Compugard, a computerized home security system, can be your everwatchful eye. Offering closed-circuit, perimeter protection, it operates via the CPU of your Atari.

#### MILLIONAIRE

(game)
Blue Chip Software
19818 Ventura Blvd., #204
Woodland Hills, CA 91364
(213) 881-8288
48K — diskette
\$59.95

Although you probably don't have \$10,000 to invest in the stock market, you can live out your investment fantasies by playing Millionaire. If you do have loads of cash, you can practice buying and selling stock, maintaining a portfolio, and acting on market influences. Ninety-one weeks of stock activity are covered in this high-powered game of high finance.

#### THE TAX ADVANTAGE

(application)
Continental Software
11223 So. Hindry Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(213) 410-3977
48K — diskette
\$69.95

Last year, did the ides of April find you furiously racing to complete your income tax form before midnight? If so, The Tax Advantage may spur you past such bouts with procrastination. The packet contains the standard 1040 form and all common, related tax schedules. Not only does it explain these forms in plain English, but it also displays the 1040 form on your terminal screen and performs complex

calculations, such as income averaging. Don't forget, Uncle Sam is waiting!



#### FLIGHT SIMULATOR II

(game) SubLogic Corp. 713 Edgebrook Dr. Champaign, IL 61820 (800) 637-4983 48K — diskette \$49.95

No pilot's license is necessary for Flight Simulator II, a game that allows you to practice takeoffs and landings in a Piper 181 Cherokee Archer over 80 airports, in four areas of the U.S. Three-dimensional graphics, as well as changeable light and weather conditions, add to the game's realism. Dramamine is not included.

#### OVERCOMING COMPUTER FEAR

(book) Sybex, Inc. 2344 Sixth St. Berkeley, CA 94710 (800) 227-2346 \$3,95

We assume that anyone reading this magazine has conquered computer anxiety, but perhaps you have a loved one who is plagued by the malady. He, or she, is not alone, as is pointed out in Overcoming Computer Fear. Written by the president of the Computer Clarity Group, Inc., the book is very accessible, and it provides both practical information and inspiration.

Our apologies to Dovestar Creative Concepts, the makers of GRAPH-FIX. In our November 1983 issue, we printed the wrong phone number in their New Products announcement. The correct number is (409) 727-5978.



#### THE WIRE AWAY

(storage device) Networx 203 Harrison Place Brooklyn, NY 11237 (212) 821-7555 \$12.95

With the turn of four screws, The Wire Away can be mounted to the underside of your computer station, thus providing a safe place to stash loose wires. Four 18-gauge power cords (or 14 feet of excess wire) can be easily stored and concealed behind the unit's snap-on lid.

#### **SHADOW WORLD**

(game) Synapse Software 5221 Central Ave., #200 Richmond, CA 94804 (415) 527-7751 32K — diskette & cassette \$34.95

Tricasmium is the most life-giving mineral in the galaxy — at least to the inhabitants of the planet Jantor. However, an army of invading spelunkers, the Rigillians, is planning to poison the precious stuff. You must lead the Confederation against the dastardly foe, despite a lack of space vehicles. On top of this small drawback, Jantor's unbearable climate spawns a most unfriendly, mutoid life-form, which may give you a problem or two. After playing this game, you may never complain about rush-hour traffic again.

#### COMPLETE PERSONAL ACCOUNTANT

Futurehouse, Inc. 310 W. Franklin St. Chapel Hill, NC 27514 (919) 967-0861 \$79.95, 48K — diskette

Reviewed by Tay Vaughan

The Complete Personal Accountant consists of ten programs for managing financial records, appointment schedules, and mailing lists. These ten programs are supplied on three disks; additional disks are required for the storage of data. A sizable booklet of instructions and examples provides detailed guidance for use and application of the CPA programs at home and in a small business.

Programs available are: chart of accounts, checkbook maintenance, checkbook search, summary budget analysis, detail budget analysis, net worth/income expense, payments calendar, appointments calendar, mailing list, and color graph.

Anyone who has started a small business or has had bookkeeping experience will recognize in these programs the essential ingredients of a common accounting system.

The Chart of Accounts is a list of the various categories in which money is spent or earned (categories include "salary," "rent," "medical bills," and even "penalties and fines"). A standard chart provided by CPA is divided into asset, liability, equity, income, and expense accounts. This chart can be easily customized by the user. Because all of CPA's financial processing programs refer to this list, the Chart of Accounts must be created and stored the first time the CPA program is used. Values are then posted to their proper category in the Chart of Accounts; 99 accounts can be listed, and each can include up to nine subaccounts.

Most people have had simple book-

keeping experience with their own checking accounts. CPA provides a computerized checkbook register and maintenance program to help balance a checkbook and keep permanent records of tax deductions, service charges, and deposits. Checks are automatically credited or debited to their appropriate accounts, and running totals are kept for all categories. A search option allows users to recall checks by number, date, amount, or payee, and to print or display them.

Budgets are also important for successful money management. CPA uses the Chart of Accounts to maintain a list of budgeted categories for the user, and also provides a general summary of budget status (with totals of budgeted amounts and amounts actually spent). A detailed analysis displays or prints budget items, and lists actual checks and cash expenditures by category.

If users faithfully update their data files, they can compute their net worth and generate a balance sheet at any time. Savings, stocks, bonds, investments, and other financial data that do not appear in checking accounts, are entered through a Net Worth/Income Expense program.

Two calendar programs allow users to keep track of dates when monthly bills are due, and to schedule appointments. The Mailing List program provided by CPA is useful for such things as Christmas lists or client directories, but is not as flexible as some other databasemanagement programs. It is limited to names and addresses, although a 20-character field is provided for telephone numbers or other reference data. The Mail List prints only one name wide, so it can use friction-fed rolls of labels on the Atari 825, Centronics 737, or Epson MX-80 printers.

With the Color Graph program, users can produce a graph of any file that contains CPA financial data. Relationships between various accounts can also be shown graphically.

CPA is designed for a single-drive

system, it has no option for multiple drive users. A great deal of disk swapping is therefore required. Error trapping is generally good, but not all decision branches in the menu-driven system allow for a return to the menu if the user changes his or her mind. Also, it is sometimes difficult to get an overview of a financial situation (such as the checkbook register) without using the printer. Displays of checks and names appear only one at a time on the display screen. For a \$20 fee, users can subscribe to a technical-support service from the publishers by telephone.

These are well-integrated programs that provide the backbone of a financial management system. Indeed, simply by following the step-by-step procedures outlined in the manual and faithfully entering the necessary data, many users will discover that their financial records are more organized and make more sense than ever before.

#### TAX COMMAND

Practical Programs, Inc.
P.O. Box 93104
Milwaukee, WI 53203
(414) 277-7378
\$24.95, 16K — cassette
\$24.95, 24K — disk
Add \$2.00 for postage and handling

Reviewed by David Duberman

Do your knees start to quiver every year around tax time? Do April showers bring nightmares full of numbers and swirling sheets of paper? If you have an Atari computer, Tax Command may be able to help you cure your IRS headaches.

Tax Command is a two-part program written in BASIC. It's a very simple, but effective, computerized tax form that takes you through Form 1040 and Schedule A (Itemized Deductions) line-by-line and allows you to enter amounts where necessary. You can usually see the calcuated results of your entries immediately.

The program is menu-oriented. You may select menu items by pressing a key that corresponds to a highlighted charac-

ter in the desired menu item. You need not press [RETURN] after selecting a menu item, and this is a real time-saver.

The main menu gives you a choice of the principal sections of Form 1040 — Total Income, Adjustments to Income, Deductions (Schedule A), and Tax Computation. The line number on Form 1040 is shown for every entry and calculated-result field.

Choose "Total Income," and you can enter figures for each line of Form 1040 that account for income. This category contains two pages of sub-menus, and you can return to the main menu at any time. "Adjustments to Income" works in a similar fashion.

If you choose "Deductions," you go to the deductions menu. Each item here corresponds to a category on Schedule A. Among these are Medical Expenses, Taxes, Interest Expense, Contributions, Casualty, and Other. There is a submenu for each of these, so every line of Schedule A is accounted for. Your total amount for deductions is constantly updated and displayed.

As you enter figures into Tax Command, you should also enter them by hand onto your tax forms. Tax Command has no provision for printing out a report, nor can you save the data. It's a program for one-time use — the tables and 1040 line numbers will probably be different next year, and this will necessitate a major revision of the program.

Once you've entered all your data, you activate Part Two. First, you're prompted to write down two numbers (your filing status and taxable income). Then you

press a key to load the program. The loading process takes five minutes for cassette, but only a few seconds for disk.

Part Two asks you to enter the two numbers you previously stored in paper-and-pencil RAM, and then calculates your tax (or refund!) for you. Other menu items in Part Two allow you to change your filing status or add additional tax. I didn't have access to the 1983 tax tables at the time this review was written, so I was unable to determine the accuracy of the program's calculations.

If you press [G], you can enter your income for the previous four years. The program will then determine whether you can lessen your tax burden by income averaging (spreading out a sudden continued on page 98

#### STARTING LINE

#### A CINDERELLA STORY

continued from page 92

simple. The problem is that the same color registers are used for plotting on the graphics screen and for text in the text window. The choice of certain plotting colors can ruin the text display. The table below and the demo in Listing 1 illustrate the problem.

The short demo first plots three bars that correspond to COLORs 1, 2 and 3. The program then changes the bar colors, using the SETCOLOR command, to illustrate how the text window is affected. Then it installs a DLI routine and again changes the bar colors to demonstrate that the text window is now independent of color changes in the graphics window. The demo will cycle

between the two conditions until you press [BREAK]. The DLI gives you the freedom to choose any color you wish in Graphics Modes 3, 5 and 7. It works by resetting the color registers that control the text window to their normal values. This is done just before the electron beam scans the text window. You can gain the same independence in your own work by incorporating lines 150–200 into your programs.

#### IRQ'S OF INTEREST

In contrast to the NMI's, the IRQ's are not often used by the programmer. Two IRQ's of interest are the [BREAK] key and the keyboard. Any time a key is pressed, an interrupt is generated that

causes the OS to process the signal coming from the keyboard. A knowledgeable programmer can redirect this interrupt so that certain keys are ignored. For example, you can disable the [BREAK] key so that it is ignored while your program is running:

A = PEEK(16):IF A > = 129THEN A = A-128:POKE 16, A:POKE 53774,A

Certain commands such as an OPEN to S: or E:, any GRAPHICS statement or a PRINT statement to the screen will reenable the [BREAK] key. In those cases, you will have to repeat the above code as necessary. Note that pressing [RESET] will also reenable the [BREAK] key.

Many of the other IRQ's are used by the OS to perform I/O, as with the cassette recorder.

That's it for now. Until next issue, I'll leave you in the midst of the OS (I hope you're not too lost). In Part II, I'll cover the rest of the Operating System. Keep your flashlight handy.

Table

|                  |                    | lable I                |                             |  |
|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Basic            | Basic              | Function Controlled in |                             |  |
| Color<br>Command | Setcolor<br>Number | Graphics<br>3, 5, 7    | Graphics 0<br>(Text Window) |  |
| 1                | 0                  | <b>Graphics Points</b> | _                           |  |
| 2                | 1                  | <b>Graphics Points</b> | Character Luminance         |  |
| 3                | 2                  | Graphics Points        | Background                  |  |
| 0                | 4                  | Background             | _                           |  |

rise in income over several years).

Part Two's "Net Refund" menu applies if you've overpaid your taxes. Items include Tax, Other Taxes, Payments, Credits, and updated displays of 1040 lines 49, 56, and 68 (Balance, Total Tax, and Due IRS).

Tax Command is a straightforward and eminently practical program. You don't even need instructions — all prompts are clear and self-explanatory. If you dread the calculations that are needed to fill out your tax forms, it can save you a lot of trouble. It's not a fancy program, but it is reasonably priced. However, you still have to enter all data and make a few simple calculations by hand.

#### B/GRAPH

Inhome Software, Inc. 2485 Dunwin Dr., Unit 8 Mississauga, ONT, Canada (416) 828-0775 \$99.50, 48K — diskette

Reviewed by Jerry O'Neill

B/GRAPH is an important addition to the array of serious software available for Atari computers. It's a powerful program that allows you to enter data, perform many kinds of statistical manipulations, and make several types of informative charts and graphs automatically.

The graphs are displayed in a full-screen, high-resolution, four-color mode, and additional patterns can be used to distinguish different parts of the graph. B/GRAPH can save data as data files, and can save the graphs themselves as binary picture files. A "slide show" routine lets you display graphs in sequence. B/GRAPH also supports screen dumps to many popular printers.

B/GRAPH is a menu-driven program that "walks you through" the creation of graphs. It can create many different charts and graphs: point or line graphs, filled-in-area graphs, vertical bar graphs, pie charts and others. You select the graph you want, choose labels, and enter data in response to machine prompts.

Once you've finished entering data, B/GRAPH draws your graph and labels it. If you use VisiCalc and have already stored data in DIF files, you can save significant time by entering these files directly. Utility programs load B/GRAPH charts into your own BASIC programs.

If you want to see the game data presented in different kinds of graphs, this is easy to do. For instance, you can switch directly from a bar chart with three-segment bars to a line graph. (Obviously, you can switch only between styles that use equivalent data.

I used B/GRAPH to create graphics from finished data. However, the program has a library of powerful statistical functions that can manipulate your data in ways that reveal important trends and correlations. A 33-page section of the manual covers these functions in detail. The manual, written by Ian Chadwick, author of *Mapping the Atari*, is complete and is designed for easy use, as is the program itself.

The statistical functions available include moving averages, geometric moving averages, exponential data smoothing, a t-distribution test, normal distribution probability, Poisson test, binomial distribution probability, standard deviation and many others, Suffice it to say that B/GRAPH knows far more about statistics than I do, and that it gives the user a comprehensive choice of functions.

Is B/GRAPH perfect, then? There were a few minor bugs in Version 1.0, but these have been cleared up in the current version 1.1. Unfortunately, 1.1 still contains some minor annoyances. When I was plotting a bar chart with only a few bars, for instance, I couldn't find any way to make the bars wider; as a result, I ended up with an empty-looking chart. I also managed to get "trapped" in the data-entry part of the program, and couldn't escape to the menu until I'd entered a few phony data values. (The program "knew" I hadn't entered enough points for a reasonable graph and wouldn't let go of me till I did.)

Finally, in the full-screen mode there are no command prompts on the screen when a graph is displayed; you'll want to create a reference sheet to help you remember key commands.

But these are all minor flaws. B/GRAPH's creators have given us a valuable program, and they have promised to provide as much continuing support as possible. (Incidentally, enhancement disks with extended features, such as support for additional printers and plotters, are in the offing.) All in all, B/GRAPH is a practical and extremely useful program. It's well worth the price, and both the program and the attitude behind it indicate that there are people out there who believe that the Atari is more than just a game machine.

### THE HOME ACCOUNTANT

Continental Software 11223 South Hindry Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90045 (213) 417-8031 \$74.95, 48K — diskette

Reviewed by David Duberman

If your home finances are fairly complex, you should look into **The Home** Accountant for your Atari. But try to get a demo first — it's a powerful system, and is difficult to use, at least to begin with.

Fortunately, the 143-page manual leads you through the program in a step-by-step, logical manner. Unfortunately, the manual isn't quite thorough enough. I was left wondering about some of Home Accountant's features.

The manual doesn't mention it, but the autoboot, two-sided disk requires BASIC. Initializing a data disk takes three minutes. After this, you're prompted to insert side #1 of the program disk. The main menu boots, and off you go.

Not quite yet, though. The only menu item you can choose at this point lets you configure the program for your hardware

setup. Certain reports require 132 columns, and certain 80-column dotmatrix printers can print 132 columns in condensed mode. Home Accountant is quite flexible in this matter; the manual provides setup codes for a number of printers.

Next, you set up budgets. Up to 50 budget categories can be stored on one disk. First you establish one to five checkbook budgets. For each of these, you must enter the starting figure and the estimated or budgeted balance for each month of the year. After setting up each checkbook account, you must set up an associated cash account budget according to similar guidelines. This makes sense, since people often withdraw spending money from a checking account.

You then add budget categories of five types — assets, credit cards, liabilities, income, and expenses. Different but related budget categories can be started for complex expenditures such as mortgages — for instance, you can set up a liability budget for the mortgage principal, and an expense budget for the interest. If you establish a projected budget for each category, the program will calculate the difference between budgeted amounts and the actual figures.

Budget categories of the income or expense type are handled differently. Instead of entering a beginning balance and estimating a monthly increase or decrease, you simply enter a monthly amount, which can vary depending on the category. The program then calculates a yearly total from the monthly figures.

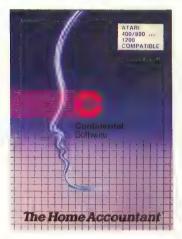
You can change a category's name, type (unless it's a checking or credit card account) and amount entries, thus erasing the old category and creating a new one.

If you have a mortgage and a checking account with the same bank you may have arranged for an automatic monthly transfer of funds with the bank. Similarly, many accounts have automatic

monthly deposits made to them. Home Accountant lets you use five automatic transactions per month per checkbook account.

After entering any automatic transactions, you enter all checkbook transactions. For each check or deposit, you enter the date, check number, payee, amount, a memo, and the appropriate category. You can also note (flag) whether an expense is tax-deductible, or whether a check has cleared the bank. The entry of credit card transactions is handled in a similar manner.

Next, you enter transactions for each cash account. You can number or classify each transaction with a six-character code. Tax-deductible cash payments may



be tagged as such.

A search/edit mode is associated with each type of transaction — checkbook, credit card, and cash. Other features allow you to reconcile your checkbook and bank statements, and to split transactions between budget categories, as in the mortgage principal and interest example mentioned above.

The Home Accountant can generate a variety of graphs and reports, including bar graphs that compare budgeted and actual amounts or trend-analysis graphs that feature linear-regression analysis. Graphs are plotted to the monitor screen, with an optional grid.

Three report categories are available: budget/actual, personal balance sheet, and income & expense summary. The

first is important, but doesn't work well unless you have a printer with 132-column output. It provides a monthly summary of budgets and a list of transactions by category, as well as your projected and current net worth and total income. Other reports summarize actual monthly balances for different categories, note differences between budgeted and actual monthly expenditures, compare totals by month, and print income and expense summaries. Reports can be generated on your printer, and you can print out checks on special forms that are available by mail-order.

The Home Accountant is a bit bewildering at first, but with time and experience most of its functions will become understandable. If you have the need, the patience and the proper hardware (two drives are a considerable advantage with this system), this program can pay for itself within months. By eliminating the need for a complex bookkeeping system and by automating data entry, it should save a typical middle-class householder many hours of tedium each month.

### PERSONAL ACCOUNTANT

Softsync, Inc. 14 E. 34th St. New York, NY 10016 (212) 685-2080 \$34.95, 48K — disk

Reviewed by David Duberman

Softsync's Personal Accountant home finance program is touted as an easier-to-use alternative to Continental's Home Accountant. It is easier to use — albeit a good deal simpler in content.

Instead of budget categories, in Personal Accountant you set up accounts. It comes with 12 accounts, including checking, charges, rent, leisure and food. You can delete or rename any of these, or add your own. There are four basic types of accounts: deposit, asset, liabil-

continued on next page

ity, and expense.

You can store as many as 144 categories on a disk, because each entry doesn't contain much data. In fact, all you enter for each transaction is the date, a code (of up to eight characters) and the amount involved.

Personal Accountant helps ensure that your books are balanced by employing a system called double-entry. For each entry, you must specify two accounts. For instance, if you start with a paycheck for \$1000, you enter income as the first account and checking as the second account. If you enter an expense, the amount is posted to the proper expense account as a positive number, and to the paying account as a negative number. One type of report, the trial-balance sheet, lets you keep track of whether amounts are being properly entered by comparing balances.

Other functions of the menu-driven program allow you to read a file or part of a file, and to change or delete an entry. If you can't remember which entry you want to change, you can review a list. You can also list all files on the disk, although this process can be somewhat slow. Another problem, at least for beginners, is that you have to RUN the program from BASIC, and the instructions don't explain the procedure very well. In addition, the [BREAK] key is not disabled - another difficulty for beginners. Also, the rather sketchy documentation fails to mention that a press of [RETURN] in response to many prompts configures output for a minimum system (i.e., no printer). This can save the user considerable time. The program's error trapping is good, but not great. If an amount contains only one decimal place, that's how it is printed a marked deficiency, especially with tabular output.

Although a disk can contain thousands of entries, the program only accounts for the eventuality of a full disk by allowing you to forward account balances to a new disk. Individual entries cannot be forwarded.

One nice feature of this program, which is not mentioned in the documentation, is that all its reports are no wider than 40 columns. As a result, it can be used with any printer. In addition to the trial-balance report mentioned earlier, you can generate an expense-accounts report that lists all expenses by account and provides a total. You can also print a listing of assets and liabilities (with a balance of Assets over Liabilities) and income-and-expense recap (with an Income over Expenses balance).

Two other programs, which also must be RUN from BASIC, are present on the program disk. Program A calculates loan payments, amortization tables, future values, and future values with annual interest. All data entry is from the keyboard, and output is to the screen only.

### A FINANCIAL WIZARD 1.5S

A Financial Wizard is one of the oldest and best-know home finance packages for the Atari computers. ANTIC published a review of A Financial Wizard in Volume 2, Number 1 (April 1983). We summarize that review here for the benefit of our newer readers.

A Financial Wizard makes good use of the Atari's sound and graphics capabilities in a complete package for managing your home finances. You can enter budget data, categorize checks, produce graphics on-screen, print checks, and use many other functions. The new version, 1.5D, adds two new report-generating programs.

A Financial Wizard is available on disk for \$59.95 plus \$3 postage and handling from:

On Line Computer Centers of OKC 10944 North May Oklahoma City, OK 73120 The final program, called N, is a simple name, address, and phone number data base. You can search for entries by stipulating the first characters of any of the five lines in the entry, and can print name-and-address labels. Despite advertised claims, this program isn't really integrated with the rest of Personal Accountant.

This program may be useful to those who are just starting out in home finances and who may not need Home Accountant's exhaustive thoroughness. The documentation is adequate, but prompts are sometimes less than helpful. If you can see a demonstration before you buy, by all means do so. If that's impossible, consider your needs. If financial problems are starting to pile up, Personal Accountant may be the answer for you.

### FINANCIAL ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Atari Program Exchange (APX) P.O. Box 3705 Santa Clara, CA 95055 (408) 727-5603 (800) 672-1850 (CA); (800) 538-1862 (outside CA) \$29.95, 40K — diskette

Reviewed by Karl Wiegers

Financial Asset Management System is a comprehensive program designed to monitor and evaluate your portfolio of financial assets and investments. It features easy file and record-handling capabilities and can print several different kinds of financial reports. A clearly written 12-page manual (with appendices that illustrate sample reports) is included with the program.

The user of Financial Asset Management System first creates a file to contain asset data. This file can hold as many as 99 individual assets, with a total value of up to \$10 million. Additional files can be created as they are needed.

You assign each of your assets a type

number from 1 to 99, depending on whether its quantity is measured in shares (1–70) or dollars (71–99). This gives you the degree of flexibility needed to handle such diverse assets as stocks, bonds and mutual funds (measured in shares), or bank accounts, property and collectibles (measured in dollars).

To create an asset record, you enter the asset's name, a six-character code, its type number, and data that include its quantity (in shares or dollars), initial cost, current price, and expected annual payout per share. A menu of maintenance operations makes it easy to add, delete or update assets in this file. Functions such as updating prices, quantities, costs and payout rates, or entering dividends (paid or reinvested), can also be performed. A handy "zero all dividends year-to-date" feature is helpful for income tax purposes.

Financial Asset Management System can print four kinds of reports on Atari 825 or Epson printers. The most useful of these lists assets alphabetically within type, providing the initial data you entered along with current total value, percent of total assets, profit in dollars, percent profit, annual payout and yield. Subtotals by type and a grand total are also printed.

I update my asset data and print this report on a weekly basis to track my investments and see what changes I should take into consideration as economic conditions vary. Other reports include: lists of assets sorted by magnitude of total value, profit and other parameters; a listing of year-to-date dividends paid; and a listing of the entire contents of the file (without the calculated data that appear in the first kind of report). A convenient customized-data input form can also be printed to facilitate the updating of your own data file.

This program uses virtually no sound, graphics or color, but it completely lives up to the implicit promise made by its title. It is easy to use, appears to be bugfree, and produces attractive, effective printed reports. The only difficulty I've

encountered with the program involves the tracking of municipal bonds, whose prices change as interest rates fluctuate. To handle them, I've had to recalculate current bond prices and then enter the new values into the computer. Otherwise, however, I've found Financial Asset Management System to be enormously helpful in financial and tax planning. You still have to do your own investment analysis, but this program greatly facilitates the tedious task of tracking your

### THE MONEY PROCESSOR

Luck Software 1160 Niblick Rd. Paso Robles, CA 93446 (805) 238-2585 \$59.00, 48K — disk

Reviewed by Dave Mentley

The Money Processor is one of those rare programs that will actually justify the expense of your computer hobby. A combination spreadsheet and database program, the Money Processor is an efficient and easy-to-use personal financialrecord keeper. Ease of use is guaranteed by its screen editor, one of the most wellengineered user-interface devices I have seen in any software package. And its machine-language code is written so tightly that you won't even know the program is running. In addition, an Introduction, Operation Guide, Owner's Manual and a unique keyboard overlay are included to help you make full use of the package.

Essentially, the Money Processor is a filing system and worksheet for all transactions that involve spending or earning money. On one statement, you can consolidate data about all of your check deposits, checks drawn, credit-card charges and payments, savings-account transactions, cash spent, and employee expenses. You can also build a list of tax return and household budget items. The program uses the actual names of your accounts, rather than their numbers —

the tedious method used by most other personal-finance packages.

To begin, you must enter the name of your accounts; you can enter or delete an account at any time. The program allows for up to 150 accounts in 7 categories: Credit Cards, Checking Accounts, Savings Accounts, Cash, Employee Expense, Tax Return Items and Budget Items. Once you have entered your account names, you need to enter data on all relevant transactions from your records on an account worksheet. Any entries you make are stored on your data disk; if you move from one screen or a worksheet to another, your data is saved automatically.

All of the program's worksheets are customized. "Credit Cards," for example, is set up to handle charges, payments, miscellaneous charges (fees) and miscellaneous credits (returns or refunds). When you've entered all appropriate transactions for your statement period, you can generate a statement. This makes each transaction as "verified" and includes it in a dated statement that can be printed and filed. These statements are also maintained on disk.

Balances from each statement (Date) are fed into a balance for each account (Visa, MC), which in turn is fed into a balance for each type of account (Credit Card); this lets you check your financial condition at any time. The closing balance from the last statement is transferred as the "Last Statement Balance" to your next statement to give you current balance.

The Money Processor offers a number of features that make it easy to use and virtually foolproof. The editor with which you enter data from the keyboard, in particular, is exceptional. It locks you out of any area in which you're not allowed to type, and permits you to enter only numbers (no letters) into the Data and Amount columns. The screen is 54 columns wide, and scrolls as you move the cursor. This gives you room for extensive comments on each transaction.

101

The controls also allow you to move across the worksheet very quickly.

Perhaps the most fascinating feature of this program is that its total balance is updated each time you enter a digit in the Amount column. In addition, a window at the bottom of the screen always tells you how much space is left in memory and disk. Since you start with more than 350 lines for accounts and worksheets, you have more than enough space, even if you are a tremendously prolific spender. In fact, the program's data-compression techniques allow you to pack more than a year's worth of transactions onto a single disk.

To eliminate the need to memorize the program's entry and edit functions, Luck has designed a keyboard overlay that fits your 400, 800 or 1200 console and reminds you of the key functions. This overlay, in combination with the Introduction, Operation Guide and Owner's Manual, provide thorough documentation for the program.

The Money Processor will save you countless hours of tedious work at tax time: You can boot it up and do two months' worth of record keeping in half an hour. It also helps you track your expenditures and check your bank's arithmetic. It sets a standard of excellence for other manufacturers of commercial software to emulate, and I highly recommend it.

### PHARAOH'S PYRAMID

Master Control Software, Inc. P.O. Box 26714
Salt Lake City, UT 84126
(800) 624-5596
\$34.95, 16K — cassette
\$34.95, 48K — disk

Reviewed by Lawrence Dziegielewski The setting is ancient Egypt, the civilization that blossomed on the banks of the River Nile. The days are hot, the nights are cool, and the Great Pharaoh Rameses has summoned you to build a pyramid

for his eternal resting place. "Do this,"

he says, "and the riches of Egypt are yours! But beware the demons who will pursue your every step. They will not cease until they have stopped you. Good luck, Little Achmed!"

In Pharaoh's Pyramid, you are Little Achmed, the builder of pyramids. Six difficulty levels move you through the ranks of Egyptian society, from slave to Pharaoh. If you complete the tasks of level 6, and finish the pyramid, Rameses can be laid to rest, and you can claim your reward.

To complete each level, you must maneuver down a series of steps to the Nile, gather up the bricks that lie there,



and return them to the top. In the process, you must avoid many enemies, including Moses's Snake, four separate plagues, and the cunning Osiris, who appears suddenly during each round. Touch any of the demons, and you lose a life.

Pharaoh's Pyramid is very challenging, even at the easiest level. The demons pursue you with dogged determination, and only speed and agility allow you to avoid them. This game definitely puts your reflexes to the test!

You can start the game at any of its six levels. A two-player option can be selected by pressing [T].

I found the game's graphics to be excellent, and its screen is both colorful and detailed. Superb use of sound and music also enhance its appeal. In addition, Pharaoh's Pyramid has staying power, that rare ability to challenge you each time you play.

I was hard pressed to find a flaw in this

game, but I did note one small quirk. Moving Achmed around on the steps requires diagonal joystick input. As a result, if you use a worn out set of joysticks, you must make very precise movements. I found this to be frustrating at times. However, a good quality joystick greatly enhances the playability of this game. When I borrowed a friend's WICO joystick, my scores increased noticeably.

Pharaoh's Pyramid is a very entertaining and worthwhile game. If you're a serious gamer, and aren't afraid of a good challenge, this game should be part of your library.



#### POOYAN

Datasoft Inc.
9421 Winnetka Ave.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(213) 701-5161
\$29.95, 32K — disk & cassette

Reviewed by Mark Cotone

As one of the higher members of the food chain, I've never really appreciated the constant battle for survival going on around me. But I got an education in survival from Pooyan, a Konami game recently released by Datasoft.

You probably remember Konami for past arcade hits like Frogger, Scramble and Time Pilot. Pooyan, a relative unknown, is a revised version of the "Three Little Pigs" story. You play the role of a courageous parent pig who fights to protect home and family from the clutches of the big, bad wolves. Now, who's afraid?

continued on page 104





You'll never make Grand Prix champion just driving in circles.

You've got to stop sometime. The question is when. Right now you're in the lead. But the faster

you go, the more gas you consume. And the quicker your tires wear down.

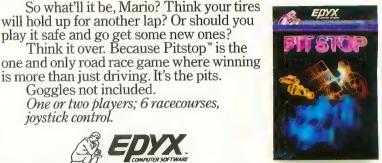
If you do pull into the pits, though, you lose precious seconds. So it's up to you to make sure the pit crew is quick with those tires. And careful with that gas. Otherwise, poof! you're out of the race.

Goggles not included. One or two players; 6 racecourses, joystick control.

is more than just driving. It's the pits.



play it safe and go get some new ones?
Think it over. Because Pitstop™ is the



See your retailer for available computer formats.

The game begins at the pigs' home, a sturdy dwelling built into a rugged mountainside. You patrol the face of your cliffside abode in a joystick-controlled, armored basket. Suddenly, from out of the nearby treetops, a pack of hungry wolves mounts an attack. Clinging to helium balloons, the carnivores attempt to float down onto your front porch. They have dinner planned, and your babies are the main course!

Taking careful aim, you fire arrows at the wolves' balloons. If you succeed in popping the balloons, you send the wolves, tumbling end over end, to a ghastly death. But these wolves aren't sitting ducks; they're armed with deadly acorns. One touch from these nuts and your basket will topple, sending you on your own deadly freefall. Your secret weapon, a slab of beefsteak, should be saved and hurled into the pack of float-

ing attackers when the moment seems right. Each wolf will then let go of its balloon to grab at the meat.

When you master this level of play, the skill level changes automatically. Several new twists and bonus scenes are added to spice up the action.

What separates Pooyan from all the other arcade shoot-outs? The main distinction is that, although many games can match Pooyan's fine, detailed, graphics, few are as well animated. The wolves don't simply move across the screen — they strut with menacing smiles.

When a wolf leaps from a treetop, he appears to be frightened at his vulnerability, and frantically eyes the onrushing earth. The quality of animation is superb. Good graphics, sophisticated player movement, and challenging gameplay — all the ingredients of a winner

 are evident here. Pick up Pooyan for yourself, and fight for your life. You'll be glad you did.

#### ACTION!

Optimized Systems Software, Inc. 10379 Lansdale Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 446-3099 \$99.00, 16K—cartridge

Reviewed by Jerry White

ACTION! is a complete software development system, written by Clinton Parker of ACTION! Computer Services and distributed by OSS. ACTION! is a structured language on a bank-select 16K cartridge. The cartridge also contains the monitor, compiler, library routines, and the most sophisticated editor I've seen to date. The bank-select feature built into the cartridge ensures that ACTION! will use only 8K of your precious RAM.

For those who have found BASIC to be too slow or assembler too difficult, ACTION! is the logical alternative. ACTION! programs can increase speed to from 50 to 200 times that of BASIC. You will find that ACTION! performs nearly as well as assembler in terms of speed and compactness of object code.

BASIC programmers will be glad to know that most Atari BASIC commands are included in ACTION!'s procedure libraries. ACTION!'s vocabulary also includes AND, ARRAY, BYTE, CARD, CHAR, DEFINE, DO, ELSE, ELSEIF, EXIT, FI, FOR, FUNC, GET, IF, INCLUDE, INT, LSH, MOD, MODULE, OD, OR, POINTER, PROC, RETURN, RSH, SET, STEP, THEN, TO, TYPE, UNTIL, WHILE, XOR, and more.

The Library is a collection of subroutines that can be used in a program, but do not have to be defined within that program. These subroutines are not actually part of the ACTION! language. They are provided for your convenience.

When you turn on your computer with the ACTION! cartridge installed, you start in the Editor. The Editor treats



your text as though it were on a long sheet of paper. The display is treated as a window through which you can see only part of the text (one screen). The Editor has commands that allow you to move this window anywhere on the "paper." Inside the window you can make changes to the text.

You can search for a piece of text, and you may optionally substitute another piece of text for the one you find. It is possible to leave an invisible marker (tag) at the current cursor position, and then go back to that tag in the future without having to search for it.

Last but not least, you can have two of these windows (look at different "sheets of paper") on the screen at once. This feature makes it possible to move pieces of text from one "sheet of paper" to another. You can also enter and save your text using any supported I/O device.

Numeric variable support includes BYTE (0–255), CARD (0–65535), and INTEGER (–32768 to 32767). Floating point is not directly supported. ACTION! even supports immediate mode commands, user-generated procedure libraries, and the ability to intermix 6502 machine language instructions.

I wrote a couple of short programs to see how fast each could simply count to 10,000. BASIC completed the task in 1164 jiffies while ACTION! required just over 11 jiffies (sixtieths of a second). While other benchmark tests showed slightly less than this ratio, some others have shown ACTION! to generate code over 200 times faster than BASIC.

#### **FUN WITH ART**

Epyx (Automated Simulations, Inc.) 1043 Kiel Court Sunnnyvale, CA 94086 (408) 745-0700 \$39.95, 16K — cartridge

Reviewed by David Plotkin

One problem I've always had with graphics drawing programs is that I never

remember the multitude of command keystrokes needed to achieve the results I want. Enter Fun With Art (FWA) from Epyx. Not only is this the first cartridge-based graphics program (most require a disk drive), but its commands can be accessed by pointing to icons (symbols) on a command screen. Add some powerful features not found elsewhere, and you have an excellent package for the advanced and the novice artist alike.

FWA allows you to create pictures in ANTIC Mode E, the high-resolution, four-color graphics mode that is sometimes referred to as Graphics 71/2. All drawing is done with your joystick. Many common commands are supported, including LINE, POINT, COPY BLOCK, and MOVE BLOCK. There are two ways to change drawing commands - either enter the appropriate letter from the keyboard, or, if you're like me and can't remember the proper letter, press [START] to view the command screen. Then use the joystick and fire button to select the icon that represents the desired command. The name of the command under the cursor appears in the text window, along with the command currently in effect and various instructions.

This program offers a number of unique capabilities, in addition to the icon menu. For example, you can assign a priority number (from one to four) to each of the four colors, including background, so you won't accidentally draw over a color in a tight spot. The background color must be given highest priority if you want to erase a line or a small portion of your drawing.

FWA also allows you to load and save partial screens (color forms), but these operations require the use of a disk drive. One of the features I miss, though, is "pattern fill," the ability to fill an odd shape with color. FWA's fill functions work in any of four directions but cannot easily fill an odd-shaped area. Another minor complaint: FWA's error messages are very cryptic, and appear in

hexadecimal form!

The program's most impressive feature is that it allows you to change the four basic colors at every other scan line on the screen by using Atari's Display List Interrupt function. This makes for a lot of colors! The display list is saved with the picture to disk, so its array of colors becomes an integral part of the picture.

Finally, Epyx provides good documentation for FWA, including an explanation of how to load and display your pictures with a BASIC program. Full instructions on memory management and a set of relocatable machine-language routines are also included. All in all, FWA is a lot of fun to use. It is an excellent stand-alone package.

#### **EXCALIBUR**

Atari Program Exchange (APX) P.O. Box 3705 Santa Clara, CA 95055 (800) 538-1862 (national toll-free) (800) 672-1850 (CA) \$29.95, 48K — disk

Reviewed by David Duberman

"Oh no!" I thought when I received my review copy of Excalibur. And there was good reason for my panicky response. The disk was accompanied by more documentation than I had ever seen with a game program — some 80 pages, including a 69-page novel about King Arthur!

But Excalibur easily ranks as the finest programming achievement to date by Chris Crawford (the designer of such state-of-the-art war games as Eastern Front 1941 and Legionnaire). In this fantasy simulation, set in Medieval England, you assume the role of Arthur, King of Camelot and rightful heir to the throne of all Britain. You've recently pulled Excalibur, the magic sword, from the stone. To win, you must conquer or otherwise win the loyalties of the other 15 kings in Britain.

As with Crawford's other recent efcontinued on next page

forts, real-time battle is a strong factor in Excalibur. In this game, though, it's only one of many factors. Your world also includes economics, diplomacy, friendship, loyalty and a little magic. When the need arises, Merlin, you trusted counselor, can visit plague or pestilence upon an enemy, or turn the heart of an unfriendly king in your favor. His best trick is *See*, which lets you surreptitiously visit any king to discover his vital defense secrets.

Execution makes this program special. An exceedingly complex game (perhaps the most complex yet written for an eight-bit computer!), Excalibur's performance often approaches the level

of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Despite its complexity, however, practically all of its functions are controlled with one



joystick.

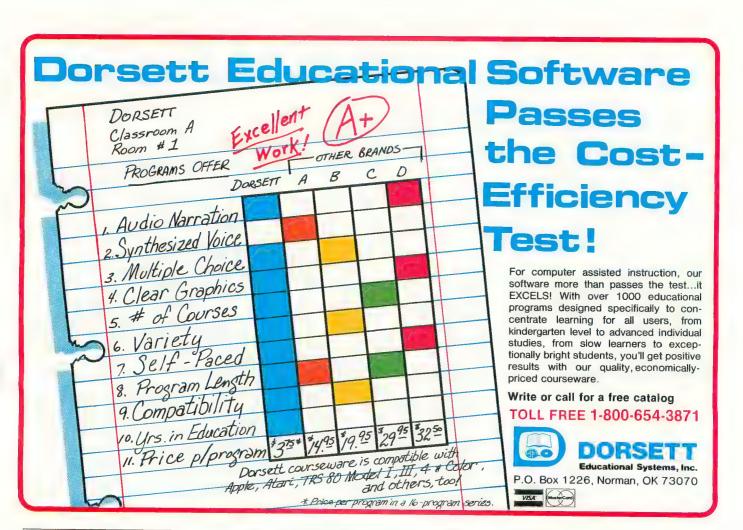
After the game boots (with some graphically stunning titles), you find

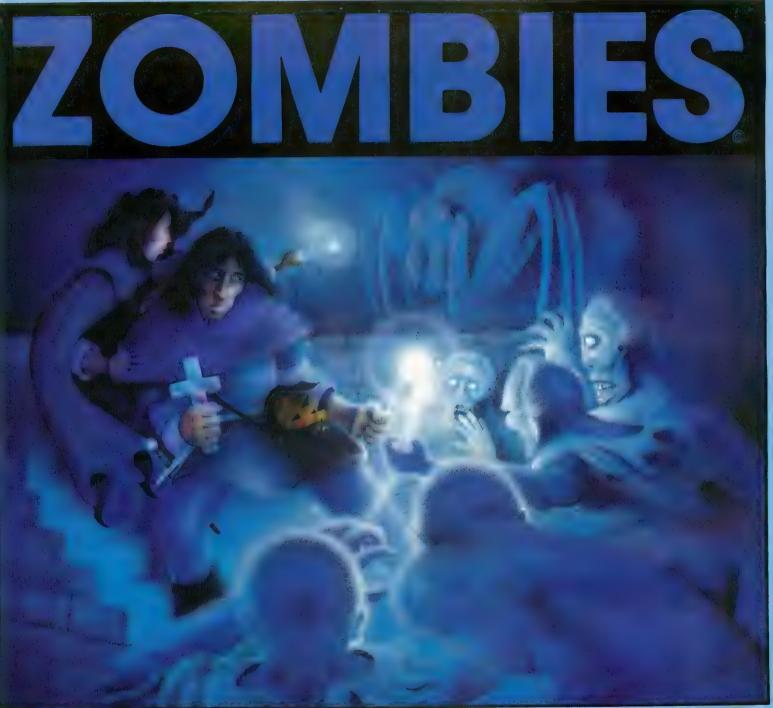
yourself, as Arthur (represented on the screen by an icon of a gold crown), in a vertical corridor in your castle. During the course of the game, you visit different rooms that pertain to various functions of your role.

In the Room of the Round Table, you monitor the behavior of your knights, reward them or honor them as you deem fit, and banish them if necessary. Here, also, you select the knights who will accompany you in battle.

In the Throne Room, which is furnished with a Magic Map of Britain, you follow news of the kingdom, chart the rise and fall of your own prestige, and

continued on page 108





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Scrolling 3D graphics, on-line instructions, one or two player cooperative, seven different dungeons, 74 different screens, high score save to disk, full sound and color, zombies, poisonous snakes, giant spiders, evil orbs, scrolls, talismans, magic spells, lost crowns and spectacular underground scenery.











BRAM Inc.

18779 Keniake Place N.E. Seattle, Washington 98155 (206) 486-8428 A fast action arcade fantasy for Atari's.\*

By Mike Edwards from BRAM Inc.

Disk and Tape \$34.95

have the opportunity to either declare war on or pay tribute to opposing kings.

The Treasury Room offers you a vision of Camelot's wealth and of the tithes that you receive from your vassals. Here you preside over the taxation of your subjects and determine the size of your army.

Finally, in Merlin's Room, you exercise the magic powers mentioned above.

You exit the castle from the lower edge of the Throne Room. The disk spins, and you find yourself on a scrolling map of Britain. Press a button, and Merlin appears in the form of a raven. Guide the raven to any castle, and you will learn its name and the number of its men-at-arms. If you're attacking, you can pillage your enemy's crops. You can also enter a vassal's fortress and help him to battle an intruder.

If you attack or are attacked, the two opposing armies are placed on a battle-field. Those of you who are familiar with Crawford's war games won't need any further instruction here — control of your men is straightforward and is well suited to the realistic action. You may attack or retreat at any time during a battle. When the fight is finished, wins and losses are tallied. One final note: A game can be stored at any point and resumed at a later time.

This project was conceived and initiated by Crawford, but he gives co-author credit to Larry Summers and Valerie Atkinson, who started out as his assistants. Their contributions have unmistakably broadened the game's scope; all three are to be heartily congratulated for an awesome achievement.

Oh yes, I almost forgot the novel! It follows Arthur from his humble beginnings through an entire game, and includes many concrete strategems that you may want to use in a game of your own. I won't reveal the ending, but it is a happy one. You are, however, at liberty to create a new scenario in every game.

Chris Crawford describes this game as "not candy" — an accurate assessment. It's impossible to play Excalibur with the mindset you might use for a game of Pac-

Man, for example. You have to read the novel (and re-reading it several times wouldn't hurt), you have to keep notes, and you have to think (a lot). It takes time to learn to play Excalibur well. But it's an investment that can pay off in one of the richest gaming experiences ever.

#### MAGIC STORYBOOK: THE THREE LITTLE PIGS

Amulet Enterprises P.O. Box 25612 Garfield Heights, OH 44125 (216) 475-7766 \$19.95, 16K — cassette

Reviewed by John and Mary Harrison

"I'll huff, and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!" shout Keith and Wasco. Keith is our three-year-old son; Wasco is the wolf in Magic Storybook: The Three Little Pigs. At last, there is some entertaining software available for the young child! This program takes the form of an animated-video story book with a cassette-based sound track.

There is much to like about Magic Storybook. It is beautifully drawn and animated. The pigs' ears wiggle, stars twinkle, men race across the screen, and the houses shake as Wasco blows them down. The music is excellent. It helps pass the time during the four-minute load and announces the arrival of Wasco in each scene. The narrator's voice is clear, soothing and pleasant. The voices of the three pigs and Wasco are distinct, and each fits its character.

In addition, for parents who are concerned about the violence that is inherent in all fairy tales, the script minimizes the wickedness of the wolf. At the end, when Wasco lands in the boiling pot, he is not "killed." He is merely "gone." Most importantly, we found that when the program was viewed by neighborhood children aged two to four, it was a resounding success. They played it over and over.

Unfortunately, Amulet chose to

market this product as "entertaining educational software for children of all ages." We object to Amulet's use of the word "educational."

There are many opinions about what constitutes educational software. Yet, at a minimum, a piece of software cannot be considered educational unless it (1) has a target audience in mind, (2) clearly states one or more educational objectives, and (3) includes a guide that explains how the program can be used to attain these objectives.

It is important to identify a target audience so that parents know they're not buying something either too simple or too complex for their child. Magic Storybook appears to be most appropriate for children aged two to five. Our three-year-old son loves it, but it doesn't provide enough for our six-year-old to do.

In fact, Magic Storybook has little educational value. It merely relates the classic story of The Three Little Pigs, much as you might tell it to your children. It may keep their attention and they may find it enjoyable, but what have they learned? There are no skills taught, no new concepts presented. Even if a child is completely passive, the program automatically moves Wasco to the proper place after a one-minute pause. Perhaps the program promotes listening skills, but then, so does a record book. Finally, there is nothing in the documentation that indicates an intended educational use of the product. The package contains a copy of the script, loading instructions, and a picture to color, but no guidance for the parent is included.

Magic Storybook does not fit into any existing category of home computer software. It competes with the record books that we received as children. The educational value of the product could easily have been increased by including a game based on the story. However, this is one of the few products on the market that is aimed at very young children, and at \$19.95 it is competitively priced. While it can be used to introduce very young children to the computer, enter-

tainment, not education, is Magic Storybook's major contribution.

#### SIGNALMAN MARK XII MODEM

Anchor Automation, Inc. 6913 Valjean Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91406 (213) 997-6493 \$399.00

Reviewed by David Duberman

Anchor Automation has become a familiar name to the microcomputing community in the past year, largely as a result of its highly successful Signalman series of 300-baud modems. Inexpensive and easy to use, Signalman modems have helped introduce thousands to the joys of telecommunications.

With the introduction of the Signalman Mark XII, Anchor brings its reasonable prices and telecommunications expertise to the 1200-baud market.

Until now, the only 1200-baud modem commonly available for most microcomputers has been the Hayes Smartmodem 1200. Hayes has, by default, set a standard for modem operations that, fortunately, has been followed very closely by the engineers at Anchor.

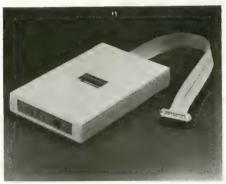
Installation of the Mark XII is quite simple. A modular cord that connects the unit to a wall outlet is supplied, as is a 110-volt AC power adapter; there is no provision for battery power. A 25-pin RS-232C male interface cable is permanently attached to the unit. An optional gender-changer gives you a female connector as well. Unfortunately, neither of these connects directly to the nine-pin RS-232C connector on the Atari 850 interface module, and Anchor doesn't make such a cable.

However, if you have a cable that can connect a Hayes modem and the 850, you're in luck. Such a cable works with the Mark XII without modification. Otherwise, you must make a cable or have one made for you. Nine pins need to be connected for full functioning (including auto-answer), or six for mini-

mum functioning. "Appendix A" of the Mark XII manual lists the applicable pins and their functions.

In *situ*, the Mark XII works much like the Hayes. However, it doesn't feature as many LED's — just one each for High Speed, Carrier Detect, Send/Receive Data, and Modem Ready. Also, it does not include a built-in speaker for monitoring calls. Instead, the monitoring of current status is performed by the firmware in the modem. If, for example, you attempt a call with no success, a message flashes on the screen after a 10-second-pause.

The Mark XII operates in either of two states. In normal operation, using a terminal program such as Datasoft's Tele-Talk, you're in the command mode as soon has the program has booted. At



this point, you can command the modem to dial a number (ATDTnnnnnnn), or to answer the phone automatically when it rings. For instance, if you type ATSO = 1, the modem will answer the phone after one ring. Then it will transmit a carrier signal in an attempt to establish communication with the modem at the other end of the line. The Mark XII's command language and syntax are identical to those used by Hayes.

Once contact has been made with another computer, you are placed in the on-line modem and may proceed as usual. To return to the command state, press [+] three times quickly. "OK" will appear on the screen, and the Mark XII will be ready to accept commands. To return on-line, use the command [O].

The Mark XII operates in either full-

duplex or half-duplex modes. Full duplex provides for the simultaneous transmission of data in either direction (like a voice telephone line), while half duplex requires that one party wait to transmit until the other is finished. Also, the modem operates at 110, 300, or 1200 baud, terms that apply to the rates at which data is transmitted. The manual briefly describes the implications of these different modes of operation.

It also describes the many different command codes available for programming the Mark XII. Among these are A/ (last command repeat), II (ROM test), and H1 (off hook). There seem to be sufficient commands to cover any conceivable situation involving telecommunications. A list of commands, along with brief explanations, appears on a pocket-sized reference card that comes with the modem. The card also lists results codes (modem responses to your commands) and set registers. These let you control certain of the modem's variable parameters, such as the number of rings to auto answer, the escape-code character (used to return to the command state from the on-line state), and which characters indicate a line feed or a back space.

At a price that is some \$200 less than that of the Hayes, and featuring almost identical functions, the Signalman Mark XII modem seems to be a logical choice for Atari owners who require, or expect to have use for, a 1200-baud device. It should be noted that pin 20, which monitors the status of the Data Terminal Ready (DTR) line, is not used by the Mark XII, although it is used by the Haves. This is of minor significance, however, and will not affect operations in most cases. Also, the Mark XII manual, while complete, is not as userfriendly as the Hayes manual. If you're a newcomer to telecommunications, you will probably be left with many questions after reading the Mark XII manual. Hopefully, the folks at Anchor will bring out an improved and revised version of A the manual sometime soon.

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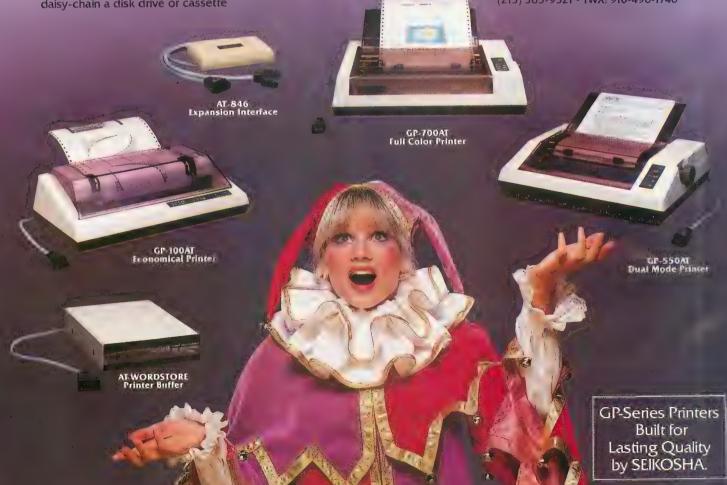
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#### ISTING CONVENTION

#### Table Information

listings.

FOR

Our custom font listings represent each ATASCII character as it appears on the video screen. You generate some characters by a single keystroke, for example, the regular alphabet. Others require a combination or sequence of keystrokes. In this table, ESC means press and release the escape key before pressing another key. CTRL or SHIFT means press and hold the control or shift key while simultaneously pressing the following key.

The Atari logo key ( ᠕ ) "toggles" inverse video for all alphanumeric and **INVERSE VIDEO** TYPE

**DECIMAL** 

key once to turn it on; press again to turn

it off. In the XL line there is no logo key;

inverse video is controlled by a key on

the function row. Decimal values are

given as reference, and correspond to the

CHR\$ values often used in BASIC

**THIS THIS** VALUE ルCTRL 128 Н 水CTRL A 129 A CTRL R

| punctuation characters. Press the logo |  |  |   | ルCTRL B<br>ルCTRL C   | 130<br>131  |
|--|--|--|---|--|---|
| NORMAL VIDEO                           |  |  |   | ACTRL D  | 132   |
| FOR<br>THIS                            | TYPE<br>THIS   | DECIMAL VALUE  |   | 小CTRL F<br>小CTRL G   | 133<br>134<br>135   |
|  | CTRL A CTRL B CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL G CTRL G CTRL G CTRL G CTRL G CTRL M CTRL N CTRL N CTRL O CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL CTRL | 0<br>1<br>2<br>3<br>4<br>5<br>6<br>7<br>8<br>9<br>10<br>11<br>12<br>13<br>14<br>15<br>16<br>17<br>18<br>19<br>20<br>21<br>22<br>22<br>24<br>22<br>26<br>27<br>28<br>29<br>30<br>31<br>31<br>42<br>31<br>42<br>31<br>31<br>42<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31<br>31 |   | 从CTRL H<br>从CTRL J<br>从CTRL J<br>从CTRL M<br>从CTRL M<br>从CTRL N<br>从CTRL Q<br>从CTRL R<br>从CTRL T<br>从CTRL V<br>从CTRL Z<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>CTRL TAB<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>SHIFT<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC<br>ESC | 136<br>137<br>138<br>139<br>140<br>141<br>142<br>143<br>144<br>145<br>146<br>147<br>148<br>149<br>150<br>151<br>152<br>153<br>154<br>156<br>157 |
|  | ESC DELETE<br>ESC TAB  | 125<br>126<br>127  | u | ESC<br>CTRL<br>INSERT  | 255   |

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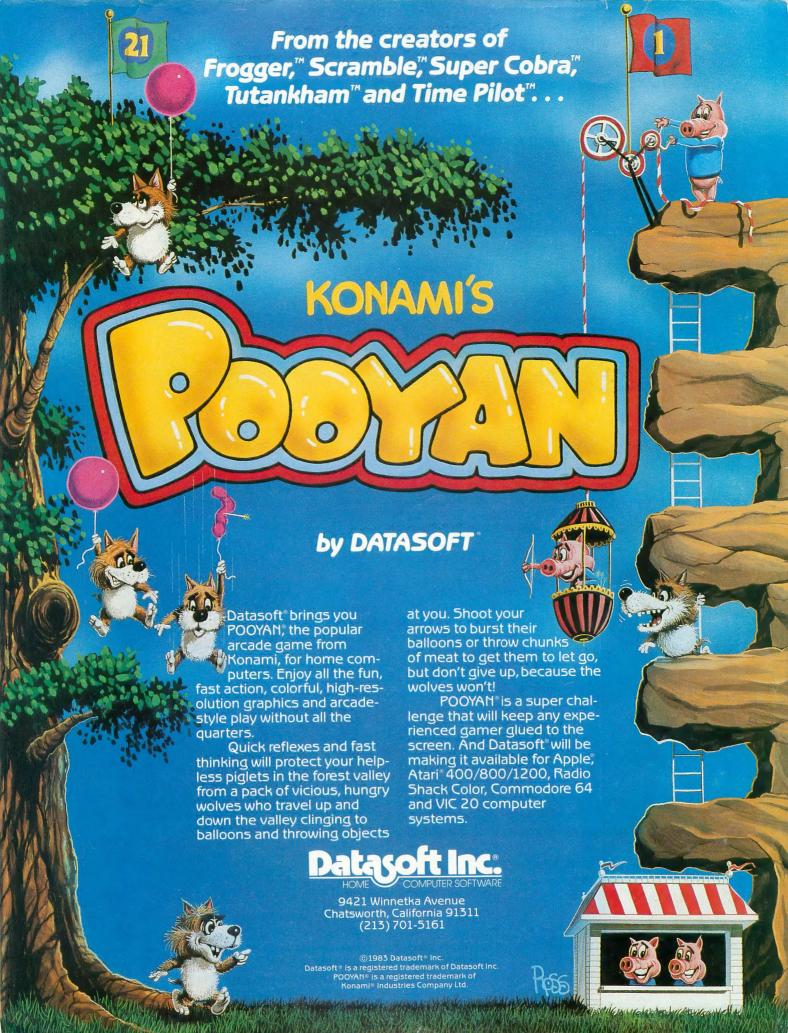


\*Micro-Painter and Graphic Master are products of DataSoft, 9421 Winnetka Ave., Chatsworth, CA 91311. PAINT is a product of Atari, Inc. Fun With Art is a product of Epyx, 1043 Kiel Court, Sunnyvale, CA 94089. Drawit is a product of APX (Atari Program Exchange), P.O. Box 3705, Santa Clara, CA 95055.

From the wonderful world of Disney and the Atari computer of Laurent Basset comes this charming image of Mickey Mouse as the "Sorcerer's Apprentice." Laurent used his knowledge of machine language and display list interrupts (along with Datasoft's Micro-Painter) to produce this microscreen. Currently a nineteen-yearold freshman at UCLA, Laurent is new to the U.S. (he immigrated from France four years ago) but not to computing (he purchased his Atari 800 three years ago). He is studying graphic design and visual communication, and has worked on Walt Disney's "TRON" and on several projects for Atari.

"Waterfall' by Pauline
Murabayashi is a fine
example of a microscreen created with the aid
of Datasoft's **Graphic Master**. Its bright blue
waters may have been
inspired by those of her
own state, Hawaii.

"Nightlife" is a sharp-eyed rendering by Michael Sharp of an unidentified American city at night. Michael hails from Coventry, Rhode Island; his microscreen could well be an idealized vision of Providence, Rhode Island's capital and hub of the state's industry and commerce.





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